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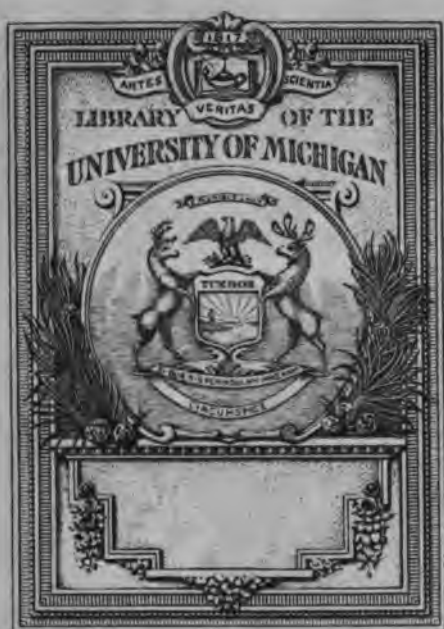
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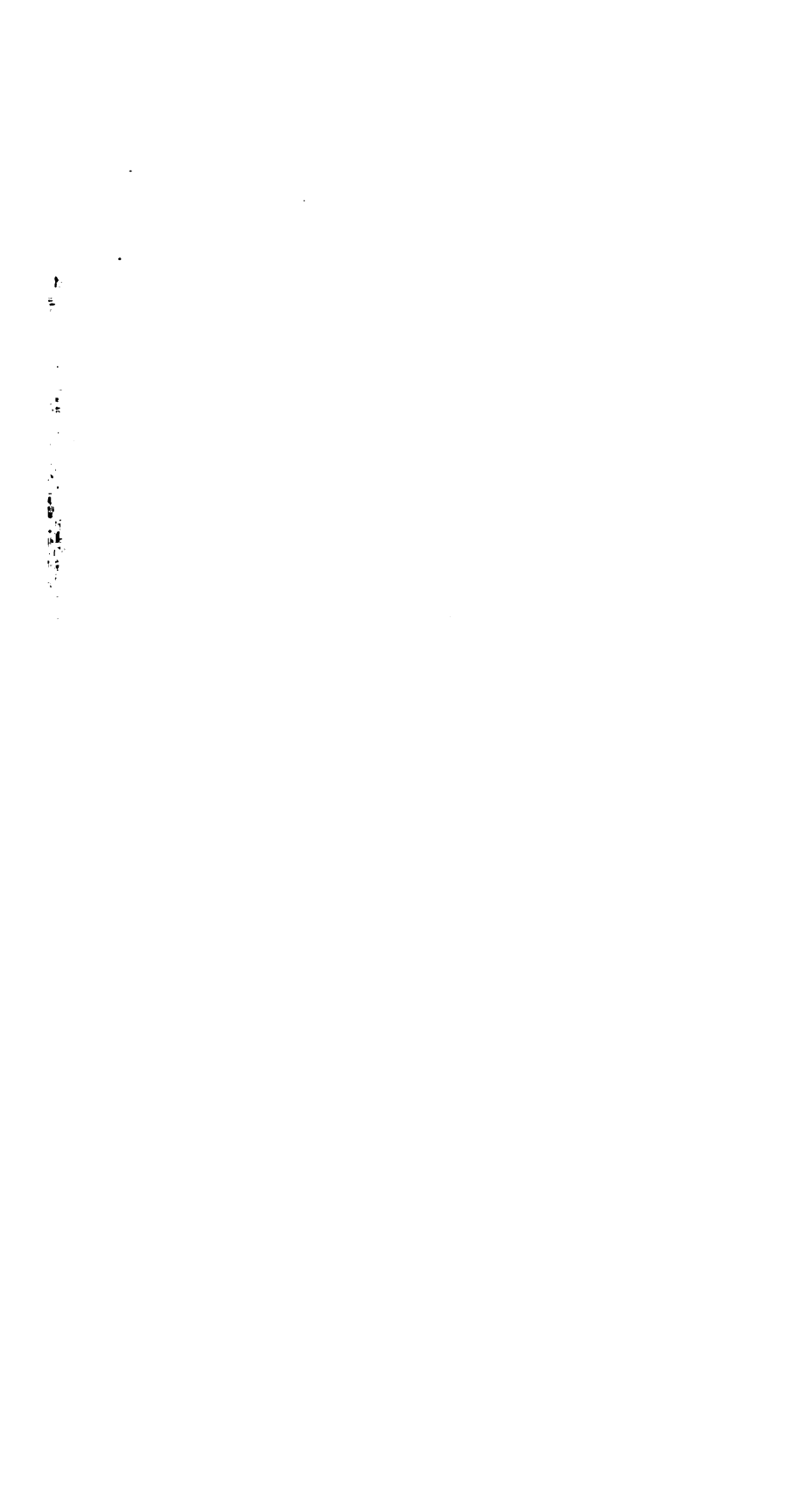
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Chronicon Rusticum-Commerciale;
O R,
M E M O I R S
O F
W O O L, &c.

B E I N G
A COLLECTION of HISTORY and
ARGUMENT, concerning the WOOLEN
MANUFACTURE and WOOLEN TRADE in
general; particularly, the *Rise, Progress, Im-*
provements, Declensions, Revolutions, and the re-
spective *Causes* thereof (with a View of the dif-
ferent *Prices* of WOOL at certain distant Periods)
in *ENGLAND*; as given by a Succession
of Writers, from ancient down to the present
Times.

A L S O

An Account of the *several* LAWS, from Time to Time
made, and of many SCHEMES offered, for *preventing*
the Exportation of raw WOOL; likewise of other Expe-
dients for preserving, and promoting, the Interest of
the Kingdom in *that* Commodity *manufactured*: With
occasional *Notes, Dissertations, and Reflections* upon the
whole.

By J O H N S M I T H, L. L. B.

V O L. II.

L O N D O N:
Printed in the Year MDCCXLVII.

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WOOL, &c.

CHAP. LXXXII.

A Discourse concerning Ireland, and the different Interests thereof, in Answer to the Exon and Barnstaple Petitions; shewing, that if a Law were enacted, to prevent the Exportation of the Woollen Manufactures from Ireland to foreign Parts, what the Consequence thereof would be, both to England and Ireland. 1697-8.

63-7-33 CDR

1.  BEFORE the late War in that Kingdom, the Flocks were grown so numerous in all the plain Parts of the Country, that the vulgar *Irish* *, were driven for the most Part, into the mountainous and woody Parts of the Kingdom; inso-much, that I have myself very frequently heard them curse

* This Writer, by Way of Introduction, distinguishes the Inhabitants of the Kingdom of *Ireland*, at this Time, into three distinct Classes, viz. *Irish*, *Scotch*, and *English*, assigning to the latter, the greatest Property in Sheep, as also, the sole Possession of the Woollen Manufacture there.

Vol. II.

A 2

curse the *English* Sheep, with all the Bitterness and Rancour imaginable, and pray to God, that he *would send a Rot*, or Plague among them, that the Poor of the Country might have a greater Scope for Tillage.

2. And this was the true Reason, that in the Beginning of the late War, they made such barbarous Havock of that Kind of Cattle, more than any other, killing Hundreds of them in the Fields, when they had occasion for the Flesh but of a very few; which did not a little contribute, in two or three Years Time, to occasion so great a Scarcity in that plentiful Kingdom, that if the *Irish* Army (especially, when driven over the *Shannon*) had not been plentifully relieved from *France*, a great many of the Country must have inevitably perished by Famine.

Page 22. 3. And as to the universal Plunder which the *Irish* Army, the *Rapparees*, &c. took from the Protestants before, and in, the late War, they were no sooner Masters of any Part of it, but it was immediately destroyed; for when they drove away an Herd of Cattle, (which was common with them) they never ceased slaughtering, both fat and lean, 'till they had consumed all; neglecting their Potatoes, and other ordinary Food, to which they had been accustomed †.

Page 33. 4. The *Scotch*, are a People of a different Interest and Dependance, from the *English* of *Ireland*; they are linked with their Friends in *Scotland*, and, from thence, take all their Measures, which concern either Religion

Page 34. or Commerce. The Number of this People is wonderfully increased since the Battle of the *Boyne*; for by common

† The Author supposing the present Design of prohibiting the Exportation of Woolen Goods from *Ireland* to foreign Parts, to take its Rise from an Opinion, the Inhabitants of *England* had entertained, of that Kingdom being made rich with this Manufacture, added to the other Advantages of the Country; he takes occasion to mention these Circumstances, in order to induce a contrary Belief; which Circumstances being extremely probable, they let us plainly into one Reason of the advanced Price of Wool, and Cattle both, in *England*, during some Part of King *William's* Reign. And indeed it may be observed in general, that the Price of *English Wool* in *England*, has always been much influenced by the Quantities of *Irish* Wool or Yarn, imported into *England*.

Ch. 82. *Memoirs of Wool, &c.*

5

common Computation, above 80,000 Families of them, have, since that Time, transplanted themselves from *Scotland*, into that Kingdom. They possess almost the whole Province of *Ulster*, and are numerous in the Counties of *Cork*, *Kerry*, and *Limerick*. As for their Commerce, 'tis certain that many of them, in the most considerable Sea Ports of that Kingdom, are fallen into the merchandizing Trade thereof, and by their Correspondence with *Scotland* and *France*, have sufficiently enriched themselves.

5. This Peoples Manufacture is chiefly Linen Cloth. Their Woolen Manufacture is so very inconsiderable, Page 35. that it bears no Proportion to that of the *English* of *Ireland*.

6. The Merchants of them, as well as the *Irish* Merchants, do undoubtedly deal in Woolen Manufactures, which they transport to other Countries; but they buy those Commodities from the *English* of that Kingdom, who there are the only considerable Manufacturers of that Kind.

7. And these are the only People, whom the afore-mentioned Law (if it should be enacted) is likely severely to affect; for setting aside those Persons of the first Quality, that are above any Thing of Trade, the *English* Gentlemen of Estates, and the Farmers of the Lands of those Noblemen and others, have been all along the only considerable Flock-Masters of that Kingdom: Some of them, before the late War, were Owners of 18,000; others of 15,000, some of 10,000, some of 5,000, and others of less Numbers of Sheep, according to their Abilities, and the Quantities of Land which they held. Page 43. Page 44.

8. As for the vulgar *English* of *Ireland*, they are the only Woolen Manufacturers, the Clothiers, Weavers, Dyers, Worsted Combers, Hatters, and of all other Trades which belong to this Manufacture, in and throughout the Kingdom. I am very well assured, that there are within the City and Suburbs of *Dublin*, above 12,000 *English* Families of this Kind of Tradesmen, of which there are computed to be above 50,000 in the Nation, who were bred to these Callings, and can no more get their Bread in the *Linen Manufacture*, than a *London Tayler* by *Shoemaking*. Though with due En-

6 *Memoirs of Wool, &c.* Ch. 82.

couragement, the growing Generation may be induced thereto.

9. The first and immediate Consequence of such a Law will be, the unavoidable Ruin of many Thousands of *English* Families, who live by the Woolen Manufactures in *Ireland*, and in which the Strength of the *English* Interest in that Kingdom, doth, in a great Measure, consist. To *England*, great Part of them dare not venture (as having fled thence for Debt, &c.) and if they should remove to *Scotland*, as not unlikely many of them might; by this Means, the People of *Scotland*, will not only be the easier and cheaper furnished with Woolen Manufactures, to carry on their *East-India* Trade, but will be capacitated to trade in the *West-Indies*

* Ch. 88. also, notwithstanding the Restriction laid, or to be laid *
§. 8. Note. upon them by *England*.

Page 53. 10. In order to which End, they will not want the Wool of *Ireland*; that is, if any of the Flock-Masters of that Kingdom shall think it worth their while to deal in Sheep, as it cannot well be supposed they will, if this
Page 54. Law be enacted. But let us suppose, that those ruined Manufacturers should transport themselves to *Holland*, or other foreign Countries, and they and their Posterity to be for ever lost to these Kingdoms; the *Irish* Popish Merchants will have then, by reason of the Cheapness of Wool, greater Encouragement for carrying on their old Woolen Trade with *France* than ever.

C H A P.

C H A P. LXXXIII.

*The Interest of England, as it stands with Relation to the Trade of Ireland, considered, The Arguments, against the Bill, for prohibiting the Exportation of Woolen Manufactures from Ireland to foreign Parts, fairly discussed. And the Reasonableness and Necessity of England's restraining her Colonies in all Matters of Trade, that may be prejudicial to her own Commerce, clearly demonstrated *; with short Remarks on a Book †, intitled, Some Thoughts on the BILL depending before the Right Honourable the House of Lords, for prohibiting the Exportation of the Woolen Manufactures of Ireland to foreign Parts. London 1698.*

1. **M**Y Design being only to shew the Necessity there Page 2.
is upon us to stop the Progress of such Manufactory's in *Ireland*, which directly interfere with those of *England*, I shall offer a few Propositions which I take to be in a manner Self-evident.

2. *First*, *England* hath no other Means of procuring Riches, than by vending a greater Value of her Commodities in foreign Markets, than what she expends in Merchandizes imported from abroad. 2. That the far greater Value of the Exportations of *England* arises from her Woolen Manufactures. 3. That *England* hath always been able to send as much of her Woolen Manufactures
A 4 abroad,

* *Dr. Davenant* speaks of one *Mr. Clements*, as the supposed Author of this Tract.

† This Book I have not been able to meet with; but the principal Arguments thereof, it may be supposed, are stated and answered in this Tract, and that of the next following Chapter.

abroad, as could be vended in foreign Markets. 4. That whatsoever Country can afford their Manufacture cheapest, must infallibly gain the Trade from that Country that cannot work so cheap. 5. That *Ireland* is able to make many of the same Kinds of Woolen Manufactures cheaper than *England*, and therefore will never want a Vent for them in foreign Markets. 6. That the whole Quantity of such Manufactures which *Ireland* shall supply in foreign Markets, will hinder the Sale of so much from *England*; and consequently the whole Value thereof will be so much clear Loss * to *England*. 7. That whatsoever Number of People shall be employed in this Trade in *Ireland*, the same Number of our Manufacturers must sit still in *England*. 8. That such People, to avoid starving at home, will go to *Ireland* for Work, by which Means, in Time, the whole Trade would most probably be established there, and lost here.

3. I proceed to the Arguments which have been offered against the *Bill*. They are, *first*, 'That the Government of *England* have at several Times given Encouragement to the Settling a Woolen Manufacture in *Ireland*, and therefore 'twould be very unreasonable, after they have with great Charge and Difficulty, brought the same to Perfection, to destroy it at once, and ruin the Undertakers.'

I answer, that (supposing this to be true) former Times might not see through all the Inconveniences that might accrue to *England*, by settling a Woolen Manufacture in *Ireland*; or perhaps they intended that Encouragement only to capacitate them to make Clothing for themselves, but not to enable them to interfere with *England* in its foreign Trade; for certainly our Ancestors who prohibited the sending their Wools to foreign Parts, never intended to enable them to send the Manufactures thereof, which would do us a far greater Damage ^b.

^b §. 8.
Note.

4. Secondly, 'That 'tis the Interest of *England* to encourage the Increase of Riches in *Ireland*, that it may be in the better Condition to contribute to its own Support,

* This and the following Articles, stands upon a Supposition of many Things for true, that are not so; and principally,
1. That *England* and *Ireland* shared, or had the Means of sharing, the whole Woolen Trade between them. 2. That *England* had no Part in the Gains of *Ireland*.
^c Ch. 84.
§. 7.

‘port, upon any Exigencies, and lessen the Charge of
‘England.’

This is a very true Argument, when rightly applied ; but there is a vast Difference between *Ireland's* gaining Wealth by any Way of Industry peculiar to themselves, and their inroaching upon that Trade, which is the only * Way by which *England* can attract Riches.

5. ‘That by putting down this Manufactory, the Poor
‘of *Ireland* will be destitute of Work, many Families
‘would be ruined, and an unreasonable Hardship put upon
‘a Country but just recovering itself after a destructive
‘War.’

‘Tis answer enough, since this is but the Beginning Page 5.
of a new Business, to ask how they lived before? Lands are very cheap in *Ireland*, Provisions plentiful. Both are dear in *England*, and the People numerous. This Manufacture (for Exportation) is but young, and few, (comparatively) are yet employed in it ; the sooner the Business has a Stop put to it, the less sensible will the Disappointment be.

6. ‘That the Quantities they make are so inconsiderable, Page 6.
‘as that it cannot hurt *England* ; that there is no Pro-
‘bability of their increasing the Trade to any great De-
‘gree, and that a great Part of the Workmanship is there
‘so dear, as that they cannot make their Goods much
‘cheaper than in *England*.’

Every one knows, that the greatest Undertakings proceed from small Beginnings, but that when the first Difficulties are overcome, they easily go on, and increase in a much greater Proportion than at the first Appearance. Before the War, they came, in four Years, to export in the last Year, 11,360 Pieces ; and since the
Reduction

* The Woolen Trade had formerly been almost the only Trade of *England* ; but now the Case was very much altered for the better. ‘Monsieur *Philippeaux d'Herbaut* (after the Peace of *Ryswick*) being sent hither as Com-
‘missary general from the *French* King, for regulating Contin.
‘Commerce between the two Nations, found insuperable Rapin.
‘Difficulties in his Commission ; particularly, because the p. 380.
‘*English* had by this Time, learned to be without the Com-
‘modities of *France* ; supplying themselves with Paper,
‘Stuffs, Hats, and Silks, by the Manufactures of these
‘Goods set up in *England*, by the *French* Refugees,’

Page 7.

Reduction of *Ireland*, they are, in four Years, come to above 4000 Pieces, and it may be remarked, that they advanced from 2000 and upwards, in the Year 1695, to above 4000 in 1696. These are not short Steps; in Time they will be able to manufacture * all the Wools of *Ireland*. But I will suppose, for Argument Sake, that they make but to the Value of 100,000 *l.* yearly, and that they would not sell for more than 10 per Cent. cheaper than *England* usually doth: Supposing also, that *England* sends abroad the Value of but one Million yearly, of Goods of the like Kind; 'twill be easily granted me, that if any one offers his Goods cheaper than the usual Price, that will become the Market Price, and every one else must sell at the same Price, or keep his Goods †: By this 'tis plain, that *England* must abate 100,000 *l.* out of the former Value of her Million, for the Sake of *Ireland's* 100,000 *l.*; and then she loses another 100,000 *l.* by *Ireland's* taking that Money from the Markets which *England* should otherwise solely furnish: So that 'tis clear from this Consideration, if no more were to be said to it, that 'twere more advantageous to *England*, by the one Half, to buy these Goods, and throw them into the Sea, than to suffer *Ireland* to sell cheaper than we can in foreign Markets. But the arguing that weaving, and some other Parts of the Workmanship, is as dear as in *England*, is a perfect Fallacy; for besides that they only suggest it without Proof; yet, if it were so at the first attempting such a Manufactory, that could only be occasioned through a Scarcity of Workmen,

* What was Matter of Fear then, seems now to be the Object of many Persons Desire, to prevent, as is pretended, the Runnage of Wool to *France*.

† Not upon the Supposition of such unequal Quantities, as ten and one; but on the contrary, as all Persons do certainly vend their Commodities as dear as they can; tho' the *Irish* could afford theirs lower than the *English*, yet would they endeavour to come up as near as they well could to the *English* Price. But this Absurdity was to be swallowed, in order to make Way for the rest that follow, as if nothing was too extravagant to be asserted upon these Occasions; and *Tully's* Observation ‡ on little pedling Dealers, was to be a standing Rule in all public Disquisitions, in the greatest Affairs of Trade.

‡ *Nihil proficiunt nisi admodum mentiuntur.*

Ch. 83. *Memoirs of Wool, &c.*

II

men, but would every Year grow cheaper as those Workmen increase; and enough is said above, to shew, that that will be the infallible Consequence of an encouraging Trade; and since I may modestly affirm, that Provisions are not (generally speaking) at above half the Price there, to what they are in *England*, and Labour holding always in Proportion thereto, 'tis not unreasonable to expect, that they will, in Time to come, work at least one Third cheaper than we can, and if they should make as much as they can then sell for 200,000 *l.* that will be equal in Quantity to our 300,000 *l.* and abate so much out of the Sale of our Million, and then by the Fall in Price, the remaining 700,000 *l.* would yield but 466,666 *l.* $\frac{2}{3}$. So that 'tis plain, that if *Ireland* gains Riches by this Trade, 'twill be at the Expence of impoverishing *England*.

7. 'That the high Duties payable upon all Woolen Manufactures brought into *England*, amount to a Prohibition of the Irish, and that if it were intended, that theirs should be brought hither, the Duties ought to be moderated so, as to bear but a just Proportion to what they can work cheaper.' Page 8.

I will be so free as to acknowledge, that I believe the House of Commons intended no less by this Bill, than the suppressing all Exportations of Woolen Manufactures from *Ireland*, and the utter discouraging the Progress of that Trade * there; but to lay such a Duty as might, at present, seem equal to the Difference of Workmanship, would utterly defeat that Intent: For, as I have noted before, they may soon come to work so much lower than they now do, as that they may be able to bring their Goods *The Intention of the Bill for preventing the Exportation of Woolen Manufactures from Ireland to foreign Parts, was to suppress all Exportation of Woolen Manufactures from thence.*

* Time has shewn, that the Parliament of *England* was out in this Part of their Aim^d; and if they hoped by this Bill, which we shall find passed in the next Year, to retrieve the Error of their Predecessors, in the Article of *Irish* Cattle, 'tis plain, they were mistaken. Nor is there, I think, any absolute Remedy in either Case; tho' by treading back those two false Steps, further Mischiefs may yet be prevented. But if we still think to go forward in the old Paths of Prohibitions, and forbid the Importation of *Spanish* Wool to *Ireland*, for which we have seen a Scheme: By a Merchant (*an.* 1745) that Law will be of no more Effect there; than all others of the same Kind. Ch. 85. 10.

Page 9.

Goods into *England* at so small a Duty, and be encouraged to keep on their Manufacture there; which though, by this Means, it may not so much prejudice our foreign Trade, by beating down the Prices, yet it will have its full Effect in taking away our Manufacturers, and drawing them into *Ireland*. Moreover, what Assurance can we have, but that if they are suffered to make such Goods there, they may ship them for foreign Parts by Stealth, without paying any Duty at all? The Manufacture being of much less Bulk than the Wool, which they tell us plainly will be apt to be sent for *France*, if they be debarred from working it up there*; though I doubt not, but if our Legislature will exert its Power†, it may be smart enough with them to prevent both.

8. ‘*That their Undertaking doth not interfere with the main Branch of our Manufacture, the Clothing Trade, but that they do yet continue to buy great Quantities of Cloth from us.*’

This indeed is true at present, but when they shall have considerably increased the Number of their Workmen, and brought their People into the Way of working their Wools, who can doubt but they will be at that also? Their Contest indeed now, is only in Relation to what we call new Drapery, consisting of Bays, Serges, and Stuffs, which makes up a mighty Part of our Exportations, and the Injury they will come to do us therein, cannot be less than what I have before noted; to which I might add, that *Ireland* affords us great Quantities of that Sort, we call long Wool for Combing, of which those Goods are made, and if they shall work it up themselves, the wanting of that Supply will be very sensible to us‡.

9. These

* Or, I add, if they be not debarred.

† The Legislature hath exerted all its Power and Skill, and Experience tells us, they are both unequal to the Task, for that they have not been able (by prohibitory Laws) to prevent either the Exportation of Wool, or Woolen Goods from *Ireland*.

‡ This Author (§. 3.) had said, ‘the Exportation of *Irish* Manufacture was more detrimental to *England*, than even to export the Wool itself.’ The Doctrine was what I had not before met with; but here he has explain’d himself; and it appears, that the Thing of which he was principally afraid,

Ch. 83. *Memoirs of Wool, &c.*

13

9. These are the most material Objections to the Bill, Page 10. that occur to my Memory, and I hope I have fairly answered them: But that I may give a full View of the whole Controversy in its true Shape, I will, after the old Way of arguing, represent it by a Simile.

10. A good old Gentleman, Possessor of great Tracts of Land, abounding in Plenty of all Things fit for Life, but especially in the greatest Quantity of Sheep of any in his whole Country, happily fell into the Way of manufacturing his Wools, in which he became so successful, as to be able to outdo all other People, and furnish all his Neighbours with the greatest * Part of what they used; by which Means, he was not only capacitated to support a very numerous Family, but also attracted to himself great Riches, and became equal in Power to most of his Neighbours. He had settled his eldest Son in a very considerable Part of his Estate at a Distance from him, which he had formerly gained by Conquest, giving him the full Liberty of enjoying all the Product of an abundant Soil; only reserving this Advantage to himself, that what Wool the Son should have to spare, above the Quantity which he should need for the Clothing of his own Family, he should be obliged to sell to the Father †, and not to any other Person, because that would extremely injure him in his Woolen Manufactory Business, which was the main Support of his Estate. The Son lived plentifully, and flourished greatly, only the ancient Possessors of the Estate (who were a very numerous Family) being compelled by the Power of the Father

afraid, was, left for want of *Irish Wool*, that of *England* should sell *dearer*. The landed Interest of *England* was obliged to him. It proves, what I have elsewhere observed *, ' That (notwithstanding all that is otherwise pretended by them) if a Liberty to export Wool from *England*, was a Means to make that Commodity cheaper to them, the most knowing of the Manufacturers would petition for that Liberty, in the very first Place. ' See (vol. 1.

* A likely Story indeed, when *England* had not yet been known to export to the Value of three Millions in any one Year. *Ch. 56, §. 26. Note.* *pag. 302.* *Cheapness of Wool, a*

† Who having enough of his own, and to spare, did not want it, at the same Time that he put his Son under a general In-
Necessity of increasing his Stock of Sheep; which, by the Way, was no Part of the original Covenant between them. *land.*

Page 11.

ther to live in Subjection under him, were apt to take frequent Occasions to give him great Disturbance, and by reason of their Numbers, sometimes prevailed against him; yet he was always readily assisted by the Father, who never failed by the Strength of his Purse and Power, to subdue his Enemies, and to re-settle him in the quiet Enjoyment of his Estate. The last Insurrection they made, was by far the greatest, because they were assisted by a very potent Neighbour, and it cost the Father a mighty Sum to quell it. But the Son was no sooner settled in quiet, but he sets his People to work upon making the same Kinds of Woolen Manufacturies which was the Father's Trade, and sends them to the same Markets for Sale; the Father is justly offended at this, and foreseeing the great Injury which the Sons going on in such a Trade would prove to him, resolves to put a Stop to it; the Son complains mightily against this; alledging, that 'tis unreasonable to deprive him of such Means to enrich himself, and that if he be denied this Way, 'twould become a Temptation to his Tenants and People to sell the Wools to others; upon which the Father bespeaks him after this Manner: Son, Thou knowest well, that my Charge and Expence is very great, having many other Children to provide for besides thyself, and that it hath cost me vast Sums to protect thee in the Possession of the Estate which I have given thee, which is sufficient to give thee a very abundant Subsistence without thy interfering with me in my peculiar Trade, which thou seest is the only Way I have to gain Wealth, and to enable me to support all my Children, of which thou hast always been the most chargeable to me, and yet thou hast often been ready to make use of the Advantages which thy profitable Portion hath given thee to encroach upon me, not only in my Woolen, but also in some other Parts of my Trade, which I could not spare thee; and therefore if thou wilt not have a due Sense of my Interest, and consider how much thy own is concerned in it; assure thyself, that I will take that Care of my own Affairs, as to use my paternal Power to restrain thee in all such Matter of Trade, which I shall find inconsistent with my well being. And although I shall always be willing to encourage thee in any

Page 12.

Thing that tends not to my own Hurt; yet if thou shalt
not

not desist from sending thy Woollen Goods to the Markets, which I have of long Time been used to furnish, I will by my Authority, take from thee all thy Woolcombers, and prohibit, that any such Trade shall be exercised in thy Family for the future, thereby to incapacitate thee from making those Commodities, with which thou canst do me so much Hurt: And if thou shalt not be careful to keep thy People from selling their Wool to Strangers, I will send Officers to keep an exact Registry of all thy Sheep, and secure thy Wool in Warehouses, as it is shorn, that it may not be in thy Power to deal fraudulently by me in an Affair which so nearly concerns me.

11. I am yet no Enemy to the People of *Ireland*, and wish them all the Prosperity that can consist with the Well-being of *England*: I own 'tis our Interest, that they should grow rich, but not by such Means, as will sooner impoverish us than advance them. I believe it would be a useful Policy, and worth the Care of *England*, to promote any such Manufacturies in *Ireland*, as may not jar with ours, whereby the People there may not only gain Wealth, but even the Multitude of *Irish* be drawn into a more civilized Way of living, which would tame them faster than any Severities we can use; for a People brought into a settled and profitable Way of living, would soon come to a better Understanding, than to be apt to quit their Ease and Profit at every Call of the turbulent Gentry and their Priests. The Country is every Way fit for a Linen Manufactory, and wants nothing but a Stock to establish it: Private Undertakers are commonly too weak to struggle with the Difficulties that attend the Beginnings of great Undertakings, but the mighty Publick would easily go through with it: It would be Money well employed, if the Government of *England* lent them 100,000 *l.* to establish it; and though we may not be in a Condition to do it at present, yet I hope such a Thought may not be forgotten when we can better spare it.

12. The Objection, that our Neighbour Nations, of Page 13. whom we now buy our Linen, would be offended at it, and refuse to take our Manufactures, I take to be a wrong Notion: The Alterations and Changes of Trade are not uncommon, and move by Degrees, not soon to be

be observed: If we again buy Linen in *France*, as before the War, *Germany* must take less of our Money; yet, as many other Nations deal with them for it, their Trade will go on, and the many distant Countries from whence 'tis brought to the Markets at *Hamburg* and *Bremen*, if they are sensible of some lessening of their Vent, will scarce reflect directly upon the Cause, or if they should, such Resentments are not apt to be of any Consequence; the People must have Woolen Cloths, and no body can furnish them with our Sorts upon equal Terms with us, if we do but manage our Trade as we are able; and 'tis evident, that People will not easily be diverted from what they have been used to, and like; witness * our continuing in the full Use of *French* Goods before the War, when they had, as it were, prohibited ours. And though this Caution hath been often urged in Discourses of Trade; yet I never knew one † Instance of any Nations being piqued at another to such a Degree, as to break off their Commerce; though I have known several Instances of such Occasions given.

CHAP.

* It is ill arguing from this Example. It does not often happen, that a Prince is in a different Interest from that of his Subjects, in Matters of Trade, as was the Case with King *Charles* and *James II.* The People were highly sensible of, and remonstrated loudly against the ill Policy of it.

† Our Author seems to be unacquainted with what happened in Queen *Elizabeth's* Time; (See Ch. 19. §. 4. *Note.* Ch. 20. §. 1. *Note.*) also in 1616. (See Ch. 31. §. 2.)

C H A P. LXXXIV.

The Substance of the Arguments, for and against, the Bill for prohibiting the Exportation of Woolen Manufacture from Ireland, to foreign Parts, delivered at the Bar of the House of Lords; together with some Remarks on a printed Paper, intituled, Some Thoughts on the said Bill. London 1698.

Against the Bill it was said,

1. **T**HAT this Bill passing would become a total Prohibition of the Exportation of Woolen Manufactory from *Ireland*, because the Bill prohibits it to all foreign Parts; and the Duty upon it here in *England*, is so high, that it can never be brought hither; and under this Head it was said, that this would put the *Irish* upon making Cloth for their own wearing, which would be more prejudicial to *England*, because the Cloth imported from *England* into *Ireland*, is of much greater Value, than what is exported from *Ireland* to foreign Parts, the *English* Cloth being worn there by the Nobility and Gentry. It was further said, that this Bill opens all the Ports in *England*, to receive *Irish* Wool; and by that Means, Wool, coming up the Channel in Sight of the *French* Ports, would have an easy Opportunity of running in thither. And that it being so near a Cut over from the North Part of *Ireland* to *Scotland*, it would be carried thither, and from thence to foreign Parts.

2. That this would discourage the *English* Interest of *Ireland*, and that it seemed not to be well timed, after the Distress the *English*, there, had lately been in; and that it was the *English Irish*, that were chiefly concerned in the Woolen Manufacture there. Page 2.

3. It was further said, that the Allegations of the Bill were not true, viz. 'That great Quantities of the like Manufactures to those of *England*, have of late been made, and are daily increasing.' And to disprove the

said Allegations, an Account was given (taken as was said, out of the Custom-House Books) to shew that more Woolen Manufacture was exported out of *Ireland*, from 1684 to 1687, than from 1693 to 1696, and that the chiefest Part thereof, was the new Drapery of Stuffs and Frizes, and but little Cloth, which was the old Drapery of *England*; and that therefore the old Drapery was not prejudiced thereby: And an Account was also given, how many Yards of Cloth was imported into *Ireland* from *England* in a Year,

4. It was alledged, that this was only the Concern of one Place, viz. *Exeter*, and that that ought not to weigh with the Interest of the whole Kingdom of *Ireland*. And Notice was taken of a Paper printed for the Bill, and a List of the Names of Persons lately gone from *Exeter* and *Tiverton*, to *Ireland*; and it was said, that several Matters of Fact in the said printed Papers, were false, viz. The printed Papers assert, that Wool was 50 per Cent. cheaper in *Ireland* than *England*, a Pound costing there but 6 d. being worth 9 d. here; which it was said was a Mistake, and that it was but 25 per Cent. The second Thing was about Dying Wares being dearer in *England* than in *Ireland*, which was denied; and it was said it could not be so, because all the Dying Wares was sent from *England* to *Ireland*, and therefore of Necessity they must be dearest in *Ireland*. As to the printed List of the Names of about 150 Persons lately gone from *Exeter* and *Tiverton*, to *Ireland*. A Person said he knew three of those Names, one whereof went above twenty Years since, and the other two a long Time ago. It was agreed, that spinning the Wool was cheaper in *Ireland* than *England*, but not the combing and weaving. And as to Soap, it was said, that but little was used in a Piece of Stuff, no more than to the Value of 3 d. a Piece.

4. It was said by a Gentleman who lived long in *Ireland*, that Anno 1656. the Woolen Manufacture was attempted to be set up by some, but they failed in it; 1679. some again from *Holland* and *England*, made another Attempt, which also miscarried. But, 1684. it was again attempted, and succeeded as to the new Drapery, but that as to the old Drapery, they can never
set

Ch. 84. *Memoirs of Wool, &c.*

19

set up that, because they have no Fuller's & Earth ^s §. 15. there.

5. It was further said, that the *Irish* must bring their Wool to a Market where it will not vend, meaning *England*. Or, that the Wool being brought hither unwrought, will lower the Price here, and glut the Market, and that will bring down the Rents of *England*. It was also said, that *England* gets much by *Ireland*. And several *Irish* Statutes were quoted ^b, as, 13 *Hen. VIII.* ^b See c. 2. 28 *Hen. VIII.* c. 17. and 11 *Eliz.* c. 10. which vol. 1. p. 153. *Note.* it was said, were to encourage the Woolen Manufactory page 217, there. 218. *Note.*

6. I will here add also the Substance of what is contained in a Print, Intituled, *Some Thoughts on the Bill, &c.* that the Strength of all that can be said on that Subject, may be laid together; and though it be somewhat long, I think the Arguments are in short these. 1. That *England* profits greatly by *Ireland*, because near one Third of the Lands of that Kingdom belong to the *English* who inhabit here, and have their Rents constantly returned in ready Money. 2. Most of the Nobility and Gentry spend their Estates here. 3. *England* supplies *Ireland* with most of the Commodities they consume; and nine Tenths of the People there, that are able to buy it, wear *English* Woolen Manufactures, and *England* receives little from *Ireland*, their Cattle being prohibited, high Impositions on their Tallow, Leather, and Corn, and last Year, the Tonnage and Poundage was doubled on their Linen and other Manufactures, and such as are suffered to come, are absolutely necessary for us, or Materials for our Manufactures. 4. What *Ireland* gets by Trade, centers all in *England*, and the Trade, there, is mostly carried on by *English* Stocks. And hereupon it is said, that we seem to desire to get so much from *Ireland*, that at last, we may put them out of a Condition to pay us any Thing.

7. And it is said, That it may not necessarily follow, that so much the more Woolen Manufactures will be made in *England*, as is restrained or destroyed in *Ireland*, but that *Holland, France, &c.* may get the Trade *Ireland* loses, and that what *Ireland* has done, has not lessened the Woolen Manufacture in *England*.

B 2

8. And

Page 5.

8. And then he comes to the Point on which the Strefs of the Controversy depends, and that is, whether the *Irish* can send their Manufactures cheaper to foreign Markets than the *English*; and this the Author affirms they cannot, because they want Numbers of People, and Stocks, and Materials.

9. The Author says further, that they make only a few Stockings and Frizes, which are different from those made in *England*, and yet they send but few abroad; and that because they pay less Wages in *Ireland* than here, they are not so likely to drain our People away, and that none go there but such as are necessitated, and that those who are in the Woolen Manufacture, will be forced to go to other Countries, if this Bill pass.

10. Lastly, he makes a Doubt*, whether the Law, if made, would take Effect, it being the Interest of all *Ireland* to defeat it. And then again, the Bugbears of *Scotland* and *France* are set up. And after all, the Author proposes a gentler Method of doing the Work by secret Discouragements, and so to let it decline by Degrees.

11. It was acknowledged, that the Duties on Woolen Manufactures from *Ireland* are at present high, the Subsidy being lately doubled (which will soon expire, and then they will come near to a Level with the *English*, some a little over, and some under,) and yet notwithstanding, we find by daily Experience, great Quantities of *Irish* Frizes, Broad Cloth nap'd, and Stuffs, imported into *England*.

Page 6.

12. If the Prohibition put the *Irish* upon making Cloth for their own wearing, instead of what they now take from *England*, it seems then, the *Irish* can take to making Cloth if they please; and no doubt of it, and the *English* will never deny them the Liberty of making what they themselves wear, but have just Reason to fear, that by Degrees, they will not only do that, but beat the *English* quite out of their Trade to foreign Markets, which must be the natural Consequence of their making the Woolen Goods so much cheaper than we can.

13. That

* This Doubt, Time has cleared up into a Certainty.

13. That this Bill opens all the Ports of *England* to receive *Irish Wool*, is true, and with great Reason, that one Place may have it on as easy Terms as others, otherwise the Charge of Land Carriage, and other Charges, and ill Conveniencies, are so great, that it makes 10 *per Cent.* Difference between Places no further distant than *Biddesford* and *Exon*. And whilst all our Plantation Goods, and particularly Tobacco, which pays so high a Duty, come up the Channel, and Wool is sent from *Southampton* to *Jersey* and *Guernsey*, and may also be sent from any one Port to any other Port in *England*, and all under no other Security than Bond given to discharge in *England*, there can be no greater Danger here, seeing by this Bill, it is provided, that the Bonds for Security, shall be given by sufficient Persons residing near the Place where the Goods are shipped, and shall not be granted over to any Person; and that a particular Account from Time to Time, shall be transmitted to *England* of all the Wool shipped, and the Ships, and Masters Names, and to whom, and at what Port consigned.

14. As to what was said, *This would discourage the English Interest in Ireland*, it was answered, 1. That by their own Confession, the Woolen Manufactory has not long been set up in *Ireland*, and the *English Interest* was preserved before that Time, and no doubt may be so still, without drawing so many People from *England*, as would certainly leave it, if the Woolen Manufactory goes on there; and it is better, that a good Strength remains in one Kingdom, than to divide it into both, by which Means, neither may be strong enough to resist a foreign Enemy. 2. Though the Woolen Manufactory be suppressed there, they have the same Means of Improvement they had before; nay, greater, since our *West-Indies* take off so great Quantities of their Horses, Provisions, and Servants, which makes a Compensation, in some Measure, for the prohibiting their Cattle from coming to *England*. 3. The Soil is very well adapted to produce Hemp and Flax, and so to establish the Linen Manufactory, which would find all due Encouragement from *England*, and employ great Numbers of People, and so would the Fishery, which might be carried on to great Advantage on the *Irish Coast*. 4. They send great Quantities of Corn, Beef, Hides, Tallow, Butter, &c.

Page 7.

to foreign Markets, and will never want Means of improving their Country, and increasing their People, without giving so great a Wound to *England*.

15. *As to the Truth of the Allegations in the Bill.* 1.

The Accounts they themselves gave, were a sufficient Proof of them; for by them it appeared, great Quantities of new Draperies were exported (which although they endeavoured to shroud under the Name of Frizes, yet are they known to be Bays, Perpetuanos and Serges) such as are made in divers Parts of *England*; and a Witness on Oath declared, that the *Irish* Serges were preferred to the *English* in *Holland*, and were in great Demand at the same Time that *English* Serges lay on Hand, and would not sell. 2. That the Woolen Manufactory had as yet increased to no greater a Height, was said to be (as the Truth is) because of the late War, which made Exportation from *Ireland* unsafe; and that Kingdom not being well settled, Persons were unwilling to venture their Stocks, and to enlarge their Trades; but that nothing can hinder their Increase now, if Peace continues, but this Bill. Further it was said, that there was no Doubt, but by Degrees they would improve and increase in their making of Cloth, for that all Things grew to Perfection by Degrees, as the Woolen Manufacture did heretofore in *England*; and making of Lutestrings and Alamodes was coming to it, and that nothing could hinder this in *Ireland*, having there the same Materials, and by Degrees would have Workmen sufficient, and a good Profit arising by it; Fuller's Earth would be found there, or sent from hence, or they may do as they do in *Holland* and *France*, where they have no Fuller's Earth, and yet make as fine Cloth as we do in *England*.

Fuller's
Earth not
necessary to
the Cloth
Manufac-
ture.

16. It was said, 1. That this was not the Concern of *Exeter* alone, but of all *England*, for there were presented to their Lordships at least 18 Petitions, from several Parts of *England*; as from *Norwich*, *Colchester*, *Bocking*, *London*, *Sudbury*, besides those from *Somerset* and *Devon*, who thought themselves immediately concerned. 2. All the Parts of *England* are affected, where Wool is produced, in the Price of their Wool, which would soon be reduced to a very low Rate, when the Manufactory of it is decayed. 3. The Increase of the Woolen Manufacture in *Ireland*, would draw People from

Ch. 84. *Memoirs of Wool, &c.* 23

from all Parts of *England*, who consume the Product of the Land. 4. The able working People of *England* Page 9. going over, would leave the weak and aged a Charge to the Parishes; and on both Accounts, the Rents of *England* must fall considerably. 5. That the Woolen Manufacture of *England* exported, was above half ¹ the ¹ Ch. 177. Value of the whole Exportations, and that being lost, §. 1. must needs abate the Value of all the Lands in *England*.

17. As to the *Objections made to the Paper printed for the Bill*. First, about *Dying Wares being cheaper in England than Ireland*, it was said, that such Goods may be brought from any Part of *Europe, Asia, or Africa*, directly to *Ireland*; and the few Sorts which come from *America to England*, as Logwood, Indico, &c. draw back great Part of the Custom, when exported to *Ireland*; particularly Logwood, so much that as it may be afforded cheaper there than here; and although as yet *Dying Wares* do not come in very great Quantities directly from other Parts to *Ireland*, yet they will do so, as the Woolen Manufactory increases. And it might have been added, that there is lately gone from *Holland to Ireland*, a great Quantity of Redwood, which is brought thither from *Guinea* cheap, although in *England* it is at a very high Price.

18. As to the Objection, that Wool selling for 6 *d.* per lib. in *Ireland*, and at the same Time in *England* for 9 *d.* was but 25 per Cent. Difference, Arithmetick determines that *.

19. About the Workmanship it was owned, that Page 10. the Spinning was much cheaper in *Ireland*; and though it was said, that that was the least Part of the Work, yet the Clothiers know that is above half †. The Persons that witnessed at first, that but three Penny-

B b 4

worth

* This is so plain, that I suspect some Fallacy in the Representation.

† Is it so? Why then above half the Objections against permitting the *Irish* to export their Woolen Manufactures, have been got over, by a late Act of Parliament ^k, which ^k Ch. 142. has taken off the Duty from *Irish* Yarn imported to *Eng-P. S.* *land*. But it is to be observed, that Spinners and Growers of Wool, are of no Account at all, with some Writers, when they stand in the Way of the Merchant or Master Manufacturer.

worth of Soap was used in a Serge, afterwards owned himself mistaken, and in Truth, there is above three Pound of Soap used in a Serge, which is worth about one Shilling.

20. It was acknowledged by a Gentleman against the Bill, that bringing the *Irish* Wool hither, would not prejudice the Price of *English* Wool †; and it is not to bring it to a Market where there is no Vent; for it always did, and always will find Vent here; and *England* will be much the better Market for it than *Scotland*, though it should even be permitted to go there.

Page 11. 21. Whosoever pleases to look into the *Irish* Sta-
 1 Ch. 32. tutes¹ quoted, will find that they were only to prevent
 §. 18. Note. the Exportation of Wool, and not to encourage the Ex-
 Chap. 46. portation of Cloth to foreign Markets.

§. 5. Note. 22. And now to give Answer to so much of the printed Paper, intituled, *Some Thoughts*, &c. as is not answered before. First, As to the Profit *England* gets by *Ireland*, it had need get something, after so vast Expence of Blood and Treasure, to deliver and protect *Ireland*. 2. This was got by *Ireland*, before the Woollen Manufacture was set up, and will be after it is suppressed there. 3. If *Ireland* should get by the Establishment or Continuance of the Woollen Manufactury, which must unavoidably ruin our own, by its getting a Penny, we should lose a Pound. 4. If most of their Nobility and Gentry spend their Estates here, it is because they live where they like best; but as *Ireland* flourishes more, and grows greater, as it must do, if they remain in Peace, and such a Bill do not pass, that Humour, by Degrees, will alter, and they will have every Thing as much to their Content

† Whoever he was that acknowledged thus much, confessed a Thing that was not true. But as an Advocate for *Ireland* perhaps, and chiefly interested there, he might be unwilling to give into any Notions, which tended to deprive that Kingdom of the Advantages of the *English* Market for its Produce; well knowing, that 'tis more Markets than one, which gives a Price to all Commodities. And therefore, as often as there is an Opportunity of making the Observation, it will be found true, that in Proportion, as *Irish* Wool has been brought to *England*, so has been the Prejudice to the Price of *English* Wool. And so it must continue to be, especially as the Law stands, and has stood, since the *Restoration*.

Ch. 84. *Memoirs of Wool, &c.*

25

tent and Pleasure there, as here; and now they go as much to foreign Parts, as to *England*.

23. To come to the main, and indeed the only Point Page 13. on which the Controversy turns. And that is, Whether in *Ireland* they can make the same Woolen Manu- factory cheaper than in *England*; and this the said Au- thor determines in the Negative, but leaves us to seek the Proof of it where we can find it; and seeks to cloud the Matter with an obscure Way of arguing, but such as every one must see thorough, especially such dis- cerning Judgments as the Matter is now before. The plain Answer * to that, is, the Account which fol- lows.

	In <i>England</i> .			In <i>Ireland</i> .		
	l.	s.	d.	l.	s.	d.
A Piece of Serge of about 40 s. Price, takes up 24 lib. of Wool at 9 d. per lib.	00	18	00	at 6 d. 0	12	00
The 24 lib. of Wool, when comb'd, makes 15 lib. for the Spin- ner at 9 d. per lib.	00	11	03	at 5 d. 0	06	03
Soap used. ———	00	01	00		0	00 08
Combing and weaving reckon the same in both Places.	00	09	00		0	09 00
	01 19 03				1 07 11	

So that a Piece of Serge which costs in *Ireland* but 1 l. 7 s. 11 d. costs in *England*, 1 l. 19 s. 3 d. which is 49 per Cent. Difference, besides the Exchange †.

24. The

- * ' All that have either writ or spoke upon this Subject,
- ' agree, That the whole Controversy turns upon this single
- ' Point, whether they can make the same Woolen Goods
- ' cheaper there than here.
- ' Beyond all Doubt, Wool is a third cheaper there than
- ' in *England*.'

Davenant of Trade, p. 81.

† I observe, that this supposed Difference appearing to consist altogether (except 4 d. in the Article of Soap) in the Prices

24. The Probability of their Wool going into *Scotland* or *France*, is before answered; and to prevent that, if this Act be not strict enough, it is a good Foundation, and a stricter may be made in Time; and the Government there being so much under the Direction and Influence of *England*, there is no Doubt, but the Laws will be executed † there, as well as here; and I believe, by Degrees, the *Rummy Marsh* People will be weary of their Connivance.

25. The

Prices of Wool, and of Spinning, the Case is since altered in both these Respects. The Duty being taken off both from *Irish* Wool and Yarn imported into *England*, Wool is become full as dear in *Ireland*, as in *England*; nay, in Regard of its being exported clandestinely from thence in larger Quantities, comparatively, than from *England*, it is dearer there than in *England*; and *Irish* Yarn (except for the Difference of Freight, Factorage, and Land Carriage, &c.) must consequently come as cheap * to the *English*, as to the *Irish* Manufacturer. So that they are not now at any Thing near so wide a Distance, as formerly; and a moderate Duty on *Irish* Manufacture (such as, for the Sake of evading which, high Penalties would not be risked) might bring them upon the Par, or rather give the Advantage to the *English*, while a total Prohibition has been seen to have had very little or no Effect; which is not to be wondered at, for this Reason, *viz. because it was, and is, and ever will be, the Inclination and Interest of all Ireland* †, to defeat the Law in that Case.

1 §. 10.

* And at the same Time bring down the Price of *English* Spinning, nearer to that of *Ireland*. And yet the employing and maintaining the Poor of *England* by Spinning, is one principal Advantage of the *Woolen* Manufacture, beyond most other Parts of Trade.

† Execution is justly said, to be the Life of the Law; for Law unexecuted, is but a dead Letter. And it is none of the least Reasons, why People, as in *England*, should be governed by Laws of their own consenting to; because such Laws, and no other, in a Country where is the least Shadow of Freedom, will be executed as they should be. Reason might have told our Author, but Time has abundantly shewn, that he was much mistaken, in imagining his favourite Project would be so punctually executed in *Ireland*, contrary to what the whole People there judged to be their Interest, or so far as it should avail, that they would not endeavour to

25. The Proposal * which the Author makes of doing the Work more gently by secret Discouragements, seems cruel and unjust ; cruel, to ruin People under the Pretence of shewing them Kindness, and unjust to do it where there is no publick and known Law to give them Notice, whereby they may order their Affairs accordingly.

C H A P. LXXXV.

Occurences and Acts, 1698-9.

1. **T**HE Result of this Bill, for prohibiting the Exportation of Woollen Manufacture from Ireland to foreign Parts, which had been much debated in both Houses †, was this : June 10, 1698, the Lords pre-Salmon's
sented an Address to King William, desiring him to Cbron.
discourage Hist.
1698.

to make themselves amends, by sending their Wool to France, &c. And if past Experience in this single Case will not suffice, in all future Policies respecting that Kingdom; let the Example of Wood's Halfpence be a farther Remembrance to England.

* Of these Proposals, as they are not mentioned, there is no judging ; but it is beyond all Dispute, that nothing violent can check the Woollen Manufacture in Ireland, so as to prevent its growing upon us. But certain Policies, in the Nature of secret Discouragements, may. Such I reckon to be, the Linen Manufacture there ; such I think would be the discouraging the Breed of Sheep there, by repealing the *Irish Act* ; and taxing the Exportation of Woollen Manufacture in a proper Manner, rather than prohibiting the same altogether ; and in these there is nothing cruel or unjust, nothing but what might easily be complied with, and which would in some Measure, certainly attain its End ; especially, if done all at once, and not by Piece Meal, as has been the Case, first erecting a Linen Manufacture in Ireland, afterwards taking off the Duties on Wool, then on Yarn ; which under such Management, have answered no End, besides that of lowering the Price of Wool in England. But that will appear to have been all that was really proposed, tho' more was pretended.

† It passed the Commons, and was committed in the House of Lords.

discourage the Woolen Manufacture in *Ireland*, and promote that of *Linen*.

Continuation of Rappin, p. 376. 2. The Commons addressed the King, importing, That being very sensible, that the Wealth and Power of this Kingdom, do in a great Measure, depend on the preserving the Woolen Manufacture as much as possible, intire to this Realm, they thought it became them, like their Ancestors, to be jealous of the Establishment and Increase thereof elsewhere, and to use their utmost Endeavours to prevent it. That they could not without Trouble observe, that *Ireland*, which is dependant on, and protected by *England*, in the Enjoyment of all they have; and which is so proper for the Linen Manufacture, (the Establishment and Growth of which would be so enriching to themselves, and so profitable to *England*) should of late † apply itself to the Woolen Manufacture, to the great Prejudice of the Trade of this Kingdom, and so unwillingly promote the Linen Trade which would benefit both Nations. That the Consequence thereof would necessitate his Majesty's Parliament of *England* to interpose, to prevent this Mischief, unless his Majesty, by his Authority and great Wisdom, should find Means to secure the Trade of *England*, by making his Subjects of *Ireland* to pursue the joint Interest of both Kingdoms. Wherefore they implored his Majesty's Protection and Favour in this Matter; and that he would make it his Royal Care, and enjoin all those whom he employed in *Ireland*, to use their utmost Diligence to hinder the Exportation of Wool from *Ireland*, (except it be imported hither) and for the discouraging the Woolen Manufacture, and the increasing the Linen Manufacture in *Ireland*, to which the Commons of *England* should always be ready to give their utmost Assistance.

3. His Majesty answered in Terms agreeable to this Address, gave Instructions accordingly to the Earl of
Galway,

† And to what was this to be imputed, so much as to the Act, which prohibited their Cattle in *England*? and how could it be expected to reverse this Mischief in any Degree, but by repealing the said Act?

Galway *, and the other Justices who recommended to the Parliament of *Ireland*, a Bill for encouraging the Linen and Hemp Manufactures, as more advantageous to the Kingdom than the Woolen Manufacture, which (said they) 'is the settled Trade of *England*, whence all 'foreign Markets † are supplied, &c.'

4. The House of Commons in *Ireland*, fell in so far with the Lords Justices Sentiments, as to say, 'They 'would endeavour to establish the Linen Manufacture, 'in a Way to be useful to *England*, as well as advantageous to themselves, and that they hoped to find out 'such a Temperament with respect to the Woolen Trade 'there, as that the same should be not injurious to 'England †.

5. *Act*

* The King wrote to the Earl of *Galway*, to this Effect.

Kensington, July 16, 1698.

'The chief Thing that must be tried to be prevented, is, 'that the *Irish* Parliament takes no Notice of what has 'passed in this here, and that you make effectual Laws, 'for the Linen Manufacture, and discourage, as far as 'possible, the Woolen.

† This monopolish Imagination, as not being founded in Truth, has been the Source of all the capital Errors, which have been committed, in Relation to the Wool and Woolen Trade of *England*. Nor was the Argument a likely one, to induce the *Irish* to give up their Pretensions to a Share in the Benefits of that Trade.

‡ 'Tis plain, that the Parliament of *Ireland* meant to take all possible Advantage from the Disposition of *England*, to countenance the Linen Manufacture there. And they have also readily embraced every other Overture of Advantage to themselves, which has been since made from *England* to them, with the same View of preventing their exporting Wool and Woolen Manufacture. But this they have all along done, without entertaining the least Thought of foregoing their Interest in that other Regard, of selling their Wool at their best Market, and in making and exporting Woolen Manufacture as much as they could. At this Time indeed, they did so far come into a Temperament in this Case, as, hoping it would be accepted by Way of Compromise, to lay a high Duty of ^{upon} all their Woolen Manufacture exported; under which, had *England* acquiesced, I am persuaded it would have been better for the Kingdom in general. But the false Notion
of

*Contin.
of Rapin,
p. 371.*

5. An Act to enlarge the Trade to *Russia*, 10 11 Will. III. c. 6. *

6. Notwithstanding the severe Laws that were in Force against such as transport *English* Wool to foreign Parts, who are commonly called *Owlers* †, yet many of them encouraged by the powerful Incentive of Gain, continued their clandestine Practices to the great Detriment of the Nation, and Profit of the *French*, who had lately set up a great Woolen Manufacture in *Picardy*.
Therefore,

of a possible Monopoly, made the *English* deaf to all other Terms of Accommodation; by which Means they lost the Horse rather than quit the Saddle, *i. e.* *Ireland* has since gone on, improving to the utmost of their Power, their Woolen Manufactures for home Use, and for Exportation clandestinely, and moreover, exporting Wool in all other Shapes whatever. Nor in this have they done any Thing but what all People, in the same Situation, might be expected to do; especially, after having been put under the Necessity, as by the *Irish* Act they were, of stocking their Lands chiefly with Sheep.

* By this Act, all Persons may be admitted to the *Russia* Company, paying 5 *l.*

† A Pass from the Admiral of *France* for an *English* Ship, that served at once for the Owling and Smuggling Trades, at the breaking out of the late Conspiracy, was intercepted at the Post-Office. This Pass had a long Time remained useless in the Hands of the Secretary of State, by Reason it was granted on a supposititious Name; but the same being communicated to Mr. *Hilary Reneau*, an eminent *French* Protestant Merchant, who was the chief Manager and Promoter of the Lutestring Company, and who had, upon several Occasions, done signal Services to the Government: He by the Help of this Letter, and other concurring Indications, at last found out the Smugglers, and, having caused their Books to be seized, petitioned the House of Commons, in the Name of the Lutestring Company, that these Books, Letters, and other Papers, in which the Contrivances to ruin the Lutestring Manufacture in this Kingdom appear, might be laid before the House and examined. The Commons referred the Matter to a Committee of Trade; at the Head of which was Sir *Rowland Gwyn*, who with unwearied Application and Industry, made a full Discovery of the Smuggling Trade. Sir *Rowland Gwyn* having made his Report to the House of Commons, it was resolved, 'That the Lutestring

Ch. 85. *Memoirs of Wool, &c.*

31

Therefore, more effectually to obviate that Evil, and because the Jealousy of the *English*, concerning the *Irish* Woollen Manufacture, was only increased by the Act lately made in *Ireland*, by which the Woollen Manufacture thence exported, was subjected to a Duty of — — — — the following Act was made.

7. *An Act * to prevent the Exportation of Wool out of the Kingdom of England and Ireland to foreign Parts, and for the Encouragement of the Woollen Manufactures in the Kingdom of England.* 10 11 Will. III. c. 10.

8. P. S.

' string Manufacture had been advantageous to this Kingdom, by employing great Numbers of the Poor ; That a destructive clandestine Trade had been carried on during the War, for importing the same for France ; that the same Vessels which imported Alomodes and Lutestrings, exported great Quantities of WOOL.' ' In the Conclusion, several Persons being impeached for this Male Practice, before the Lords, by the Commons, the Lords imposed a Fine of ten Thousand Pounds upon Stephen Seignoret ; of three Thousand Pounds on Rene Baudouin ; of fifteen Hundred Pounds on John Goudet, and Nicholas Santini ; of one Thousand Pounds on Peter de Hearce, John Peirce, and John du Maitre ; and of five Hundred Pounds on David Burreau ; and ordered that they should be imprisoned in Newgate, until they had paid their respective Fines ; and the Commons addressed the King, that these Fines might be appropriated to Greenwich Hospital, which he ordered accordingly. Other Smugglers were ordered by the Commons to be prosecuted by the Attorney General, and for his good Services, a Bill for naturalizing Mr. Henry Reneau and his Family, to pass the House gratis.

** This Act recites, ' That great Quantities of the like Woollen Manufactures, as in England, have of late been made, and are daily increasing in the Kingdom of Ireland, and in the English Plantations in America. For Prevention whereof, and Encouragement of the Woollen Manufactures within this Kingdom, it enacted, 1. That no Person should export from Ireland, Wool or Woollen Goods, except to England or Wales, under very high Penalties (which see in the Act) such Wool and Woollen Goods to be shipped only from certain Ports in Ireland, to certain Ports in England or Wales.*

16. *' The Commissioners of the Admiralty, to appoint two Ships of the fifth Rate, two of the sixth Rate, and eight*

Essay on
the Balance of
Trade,
p. 85.

8. P. S. *While this visionary Project was under Consideration, for suppressing the Woolen, by setting up instead thereof the Linen Trade in Ireland, Dr. Davenant delivered his Sentiments about it thus.*

‘ They who would prohibit the Exportation of Woolen Goods from *Ireland* to foreign Parts, have hitherto proposed the setting up there the Linen Manufacture. But this Design is not without its Danger. Our Woolen Goods are sold in several Places, many of which will not be able to take off those Goods, unless we deal for their Linens. And in truth, as our Call for some Linens has diminished, by the Importation of certain *East-India* Goods, their Call for Drapery has decreased in Proportion; not only so, but the People have been compelled by Necessity to fall upon making coarse Woolen Cloth; by which they supply themselves and other Places, which heretofore we were wont to furnish.

Page 86.

‘ Upon the whole Matter, it ought to be carefully examined, whether instead of establishing a Linen Manufacture in *Ireland*, it would not be the best for both Kingdoms, to take off the Prohibition that lies on the
‘ *Catle*.

Ch. 76.
§. 14.
Note.

‘ eight armed Sloops’ (which was one fifth Rate, and four armed Sloops more than had been appointed by 7, 8 Will. c. 28 m.

‘ constantly to cruize on the Coasts of *England* and *Ireland*, particularly, between the North of *Ireland* and *Scotland*, with Order to seize all Ships which shall export Wool, with Intent to carry it to foreign Parts.

17. ‘ All Wool Ships or Boats so seized, shall be forfeited.

19. ‘ No WOOL †, or Woolen Manufacture, being of the Product or Manufacture of any of the *English* Plantations in *America*, shall be loaden on Board any Ship in the *English* Plantations, or loaden upon any Horse or Carriage, to the Intent to be exported out of the said Plantations, to any other of the said Plantations, or to any other Place, upon the like Penalties upon every Offender, as are provided by this Act, for the like Offences in *Ireland*.

† How doth this Clause agree, with the too general Notion, That our WOOL, viz. *English* and *Irish*, is to all the World a necessary of Life? And how can we be assured of a more strict Observance of this Act in the *American* Plantations, than in *England* and *Ireland*,

• Cattle. This Point has been formerly much debated ;
 • but it is to be feared, that in the making that Act, the
 • general Interest of *England* was not sufficiently con-
 • sidered.'

9. To Dr. Davenant's *Argument, as above, against the Linen Manufacture in Ireland*, Mr. Dobbs^a hath^a *Essay on Trade, &c. in Ireland,* since excepted, as follows: ' By this Way of reasoning, He [Dr. Davenant] must mean, that either that [*the* *Hamburg*] Trade must always be against *Britain* upon the Balance, or that they could not expect to trade with them, if they received a Balance from *Hamburg*; and consequently that Trade, as then carried Dobbs, on, was of no Benefit to *Britain*. For if *England* Esq. consumed at home as many *Hamburg* Linens, or more than the Value of the Goods carried there, then we were either barely Savers, or lost by that Trade, and *Hamburg* must have a Balance in Return from *England*, which would not be poured back again any other Way, as it would from *Ireland*; thus the Benefit would redound to *Hamburg* instead of *England*, and the foreign Poor be employed instead of those under our Government; whereas, by the established Maxims of Trade, a wise and prudent Nation should endeavour to procure fewer Importations, that a Balance in Cash might be brought into it.—But though this lessening of the Vent of *Hamburg* Linens was of Consequence, when in Distinction with setting up the Linen Manufacture in *Ireland*; yet was it not once mentioned, when in Competition with the *East-India* Callicoes and Muslins^o, which, he owns, lessened, as^b See well as lowered, the *Hamburg* Linens; but the com- Chap. 79^d mon prevailing Opinion, of *Ireland*'s being a dangerous Rival to *England* in Trade, and a perpetual Expence, made all Objections against it go down easily, which at other Times would not have been advanced.'

10. *Whatever Weight there may be in Mr. Dobbs's Ar- Remark; gument, in regard to the general Balance of Trade, and notwithstanding that he most justly corrects Dr. Davenant for the Part^e he took, in Relation to East-India Callicoes, &c. ; yet is it to be observed, that he (Mr. Dobbs) does not deny, but rather seems to admit, that, as Dr. Davenant had said it would be, so the English Vent to Hamburg* Ch. 79ⁱ
 VOL. II. C for

- for Woolen Manufacture, has been, and is, impaired by the
- ¹ See Linen Trade of Ireland¹. Nor does he say, that such
- Chap. 101. Defalcation of the English Woolen Trade is any other
- §. 2. Note. Way made up to the English Wool Grower particularly ;
- which (if it is not) renders the Monopoly against him, as
- occasioned by the absolute Prohibition on Wool, but so
- much the stronger and more grievous.—Mr. Dobbs, per-
- haps, would be ready to alledge some Compensation to the
- ¹ §. 7. English Woolen Trade, from the Act of 1699², which
- demolished (as we are to believe, and as was certainly in-
- tended³) the Woolen Trade of Ireland, and gave the
- ¹ Ch. 83. English (as he calls it) a Monopoly of the Irish Wool and
- §. 7. Yarn.—But whatever were the first Effects of that Act,
- they certainly were not of such Duration, but that the
- Disaster is long since more than recovered in Ireland ; as
- must be acknowledged, if we consider, 1st, that the Irish;
- instead of fewer and worse, for Exportation, as before
- that Act, make now, considerably more, and better
- Woolen Manufactures, for their home Consumption ; and
- ¹ Ch. 84. those, instead of what they used⁴ to purchase from Eng-
- §. 1. land ; and by which England in Course sustains some
- ² Essay, &c. Loss.—Thus, for Instance, Mr. Dobbs⁵ rates (from
- Part 1. the Custom-House Books) the Spanish Wool imported to
- P. 97. Ireland, from 1719 to 1726 inclusive, at but 368 l. per
- Ann. A Merchant, the Author of ‘ A Scheme for pre-
- venting the running of Irish Wools to France, print-
- ¹ Page 13. ed 1745⁶, rates the same, from the Custom-House Books
- ‘ also, in the Year 1743, at 9,120 l.’ So that, in Ire-
- land, the Manufacture of fine Cloth, from Spanish Wool,
- in about seventeen Years, is increased more than twenty-
- fold.—Moreover, in 1697, (the Year, but one, before
- the Act for restraining the Exportation of Woolen Manu-
- ² Ch. 126. facture from Ireland to foreign Parts,) the total Value of
- §. 9. the Irish Woolen Exports, of all Sorts, was 23,614 l.
- ¹ Ch. 126. §. 8. 9 s. 6 d. ²; and in 1687, (when the Irish Woolen Ma-
- ² Ch. 143. nufacture was at its highest Pitch) their Exports did not
- N^o. 1. §. 1. exceed 70,521 l. 14 s. ³; while at present, confessedly,
- A Compu- 50,000 Stones of Wool⁴ are exported from Ireland, in
- tation. Manufacture, clandestinely, besides what is openly exported
- ² Essay, &c. (in Consequence of lower Duties on those Goods⁵), in Frize,
- By A. Flannen, Hats.—And these 50,000 Stones, at 3 l. 10 s.
- Dobbs, per Stone, as according to Mr. Dobbs⁶, produce Manu-
- Esq; p. 24. facture, to the Value of 175,000 l. ; which is above twice
- ² Essay, p. 60. as

as much as was exported from Ireland in 1687, and more than seven Times the Value of what was exported thence in 1697.

I confess that Mr. Dobbs seems to overrate his *Woolen Manufacture*, at 3 L. 10 s. per Stone upon a Medium.— But taking it upon the Foot of Mr. King's *Valuation*, viz. of four Times the prime Cost of the Wool, and valuing Merchants the Wool but at 8 s. per Stone; and 50,000 Stones manufactured, produce 80,000 l. which exceeds the Value of the whole *Woolen Exportations* from Ireland in 1687; which in that respect, was the greatest Year that had been known in Ireland, not only between the Revolution and the Year 1699, but before the Year 1688, and the spoiling of that Kingdom, by the War of three Years there, which attended the Revolution.— And seeing that there is all imaginable Reason to believe that this Computation (of 50,000 Stones of Wool exported in Manufacture every Year clandestinely from Ireland, as being the Computation of Persons more immediately interested in that Kingdom) rather came short of, than exceeded the Truth; hence it is plain, that as, in Fact, the Irish have not patiently submitted to, so neither have they suffered, much, or long, by, the Act of 1699, even in their *Woolen Trade* to foreign Parts. And therefore, besides that Mr. Dobbs confesses the *Linen Trade* to be a full Equivalent to the Irish for their *Woolen Trade* to foreign Parts (supposing they had lost it, which it is plain they have not) the Monopoly of their Wool and Yarn (which he mentions, tho' does not complain of, but says, they ought to acquiesce in) is not altogether what he represents it, nor, at the most, any other than what the English Grower and Spinner is equally subject to. I say, at the most. For Wool and Yarn being more easily, as well as more willingly, run from Ireland than from Britain, the Irish Grower and Spinner (especially since the Duties on Irish Wool and Yarn in England, are taken off) has more of a double, and proportionably a better, Market for Wool and Yarn, than the Growers and Spinners of Britain have. Accordingly, the above mentioned Author of a Scheme, &c. tells us, the fine Wools of Ireland were sold in 1743-4, at 16 s. per Stone, and that the whole Wools of that Kingdom, were then worth upon a Medium, 12 s. per Stone; which was considerably above

^h See the then Medium Price of English Wools in ^h England *.
 Ch. 176. All which, makes it reasonable to consider (what Mr. Dobbs
 §. 28. recommends) ' whether the Irish Wool, as now disposed
 ' of, is so beneficial an Article to Britain, as it might
 ' be.' To which I add, whether the English Grower has
 a Market Price for his Wool, and whether the whole
 Affair, of the Irish Cattle, Wool, and Woolen Manu-
 facture, is not capable of a Compromise, to the mutual Ad-
 vantage of both Kingdoms, beyond what they are at present
 to either.

¹ Essay, &c. 11. Mr. Dobbs says ¹, ' Upon checking the Export of
 P. 6, 7. ' our Woolen Manufacture to foreign Kingdoms, and
 ' by laying on heavy Duties on its being exported to Eng-
 ' land in 1699, and 1700, equivalent to a Prohibition;
 ' most of those who had embarked in the Woolen Ma-
 ' nufacture, were laid under a Necessity of removing
 ' elsewhere; and being piqued at the Difficulties they were
 ' laid under, many of the Protestants removed into Ger-
 ' many, and settled in the Protestant States there, who
 ' received them with open Arms. Several Papists at the
 ' same Time removed into the Northern Parts of Spain ^k,
 ' where they laid the Foundation of a Manufacture high-
 ' ly prejudicial to England. Many also of the Pro-
 ' testants who were embarked with Papists in the Woolen
 ' Manufacture, removed into France, and settled in Roan
 ' and other Parts. Notwithstanding Lewis the XIVth
 ' had repealed the Edict of Nantz, and forced abroad
 ' the French Protestants into different Parts of Europe,
 ' yet these were kindly received by him, had Encourage-
 ' ment given to them; and were protected in their Re-
 ' ligion. From these Beginnings they have in many
 ' Branches, so much improved the Woolen Manufactures
 ' of France, as not only to supply themselves, but even
 ' to vye with the English in foreign Markets; and by
 ' their Correspondence, they have laid the Foundation
 ' for the running of Wool thither, both from England and
 ' Ireland,

¹ Essay, &c. * And yet Mr. Dobbs says ¹ of Ireland: ' By being con-
 P. 74. ' fined to one Market, the Profit made by our Sheep is too
 ' small.' With how much more Reason then may the English
 Sheep-owner complain, whose Profit from Wool especially,
 is considerably less?

‘ Ireland, highly to the Prejudice of *Britain*; which
 ‘ pernicious Practice is still carried on, in Spite of all the
 ‘ Care and Precautions made use of to discountenance
 ‘ and prevent it.

‘ Thus a Check is put to the Sale of our Woolen
 ‘ Manufactures abroad, which would have given full
 ‘ Employment to all the industrious Poor both of *Britain*
 ‘ and *Ireland*, had not our Manufacturers been forced
 ‘ away into *France, Spain, and Germany*; where they
 ‘ are now so improved, as in great Measure to supply
 ‘ themselves with many Sorts they formerly had from
 ‘ *England*. The *French* particularly are supplanting
 ‘ *Britain* in many of their Markets abroad; and upon
 ‘ the whole, those Nations may be justly said to have de-
 ‘ prived *Britain* of *Millions* since that Time, instead of
 ‘ the *Thousands* *IRELAND* might possibly have made;
 ‘ which Gain whatever it had been, must necessarily have
 ‘ centered in *England* at last. For had they then allow-
 ‘ ed us to manufacture our Wools, and confined us to
 ‘ the *English* Markets; it is not to be imagined we could
 ‘ have under-fold the Manufacturers there, by having
 ‘ Provisions cheaper, considering Carriage, Commission,
 ‘ Freight, &c. since it is observable in our great Towns,
 ‘ where those Manufactures must have been carried on,
 ‘ our Provisions, for several Years, have been dearer
 ‘ than in the manufacturing Towns and Counties in
 ‘ *England*.’

12. I desire to remark again, after this ingenious Gentle- Remark.
 man, Mr. Dobbs, that 1. He ascribes too much to the *Act*
 1699, prohibiting the Exportation of Woolen Manufacture
 from *Ireland* to foreign Parts. For as mentioned already, it §. 10.
 will be seen *, that from *Ireland* in 1697, was exported but to Ch. 126.
 the Value of 23614 l. in Woolen Manufacture; whence it §. 9.
 follows, that the Persons embarked in that Business there, and
 by that *Act* disconcerted, could not be so many and considerable,
 as would naturally be imagined from Mr. Dobbs’s manner
 of relating this Affair. 2. As the Irish have not only so
 vastly increased their Manufacture of fine Cloth from Spanish
 Wool, (as hath been mentioned at §. 10.) but do now ex-
 port, clandestinely, at least *, near four Times the Quantity
 of Woolen Manufacture, which they did export in 1697, the
 C 3 Year,

* I say at least, because so much is said to have been ac-
 know-

¹ See

vol. 1.

p. 191,

p. 187.

Chap. 46.

§. 4.

^a Ch. 143.

N^o. 8. §. 4.

ⁿ See

Ch. 143.

N^o. 1. §. 1.

A Compu-

tation.

Year, but one, before they were supposed to be restrained by Act of Parliament: So it follows from thence also, that this intended Restraint has been, in Reality, no Check at all, or, at the most, but a very slender one. 3. Though I will not deny (because this Gentleman has said it) that some Persons embarked in this Business, might, upon the passing of this Act, 1699, go from Ireland, both to France, Germany, and Spain; yet I cannot admit, that those were in any Sense the Beginners of Woolen Manufacture in France and Germany particularly: Some ¹ of the foregoing, and following Chapters, of these Memoirs, sufficiently evince the contrary. 4. Mr. Dobbs is not only mistaken somewhat, in supposing that the French have, since the Year 1699, begun to vie with the English Woolen Manufacture in foreign Markets, but greatly so, in deducing thence the Original of their running Wool from England and Ireland (that being much prior to this Event, and as old as the Prohibition itself.) But I suppose it was intended hereby to insinuate, as he and some others of the same Country have alledged, that restoring to the Irish certain Privileges wanted, for exporting Woolen Manufacture openly and legally, would be effectually preventing the Runnage of Wool from that Kingdom for the future; which, for certain Reasons, to be given hereafter ^a, is not N^o. 8. §. 4. credible. Neither, I think, is it true (which he further suggests) that the Irish, upon his Terms, (§. 11.) would not be able to under-sell the English, in Woolen Manufacture; since we shall find the contrary alledged by other Writers, even in Behalf of the Woolen Trade of Ireland; it being particularly said by One ⁿ, that they do at present under-sell the English, 16 per-Cent; which I presume, is N^o. 1. §. 1. more than can be accounted of, for Carriage, Commission, Freight, &c.

C H A P.

knowned publicly, in a parliamentary Debate in Ireland^o; whence it may reasonably be imagined that the real Quantity is considerably more.

^o See

Ch. 143.

N^o. 1. §. 1.

A Compu-

tation.

C H A P. LXXXVI.

*England's Grandeur, and Way to get Wealth;
or Promotion of Trade made easy, &c.*

By T. Tryon, Merchant, 1699.

1. **T**HE Foundations of this Kingdom, are *Land, Trade, and Manufacture*. And it is indeed evident, that the promoting our Manufactures, is not only beneficial to particular Persons, but also to the Kingdom in general; for notwithstanding that the Product of our Lands hath bore a very considerable Price for seven or eight Years last past, occasioned by the Badness of our Coin, the clothing our Armies at home and abroad, and the Devastations committed in several of our neighbouring Countries by the late Wars, as well as the taking of great Numbers of our outward bound Ships, which obliged the Merchants to buy double the Quantity thereof, than otherwise they would have done. The Peace having put a Period to all these Things, our Product must come down to its ancient Price, and in all Probability much lower. For within these eight or ten Years, we have had several Wounds and Breaches made in our Trade by our Neighbours, I mean the *French, Portuguese, Genese, Swedes, and Danes*.

2. If it be objected, that though these Nations have, during the War, gained the Ascendant over us in several Parts of our Trade, yet we may recover it again. To this I answer, that we have little Reason to hope to out-trade the *Dutch*, as Matters now stand, more than the rest of our Neighbours. However, this should excite our Diligence, not only in propagating Navigation, but also the Staple Commodities of this Nation, the *Woolen Manufactury, &c.*; which, if neglected, will in a few Years pine. For as we have Competitors in our foreign Trade, so we may have the like in our Manufactures; there being in *America* divers considerable Settlements, which hitherto have been furnished with most of their Clothing and Utensils from *England*, but their Countries not furnishing them with sufficient Quantities of vendi-

ble Commodities for *England*; by this Means their Clothing proving excessive dear and chargeable, it hath put them upon breeding all Sorts of Cattle, and making their own Clothing, which is certainly very detrimental to us.

3. The like may be said of *Ireland*, whose Cattle and Provisions being low, likely to be lower, occasions their taking such Methods as may advance the Woolen Manufactures; they being provided of all suitable Materials for such an Undertaking; which being transported, they will as much outvie us in Woolen Commodities, as they do in their Provisions; and if it should be in any Degree or Particular hindered, it would not only lessen the Value of the *English* Settlements, but mightily weaken the Protestant Interest. So that it may be better to lay a Duty * of ————— upon every Pound Weight of Woolen Manufactory exported from *Ireland*. It will make theirs equivalent with ours. So both Nations may go on jointly in the Preservation thereof, and prevent the Exportation of Wool from either Kingdom.

C H A P.

* This Tract, tho' placed after, appears to have been wrote before the Act 10, 11 Will. III. p. c. 10. And if it is allowable to argue from Experience in this Case, as also from the Reason of Things, the Expedient here proposed, had been, of all others, the most likely to have produced a good Effect.

C H A P. LXXXVII.

England's *Advocate*, &c. In a Letter to
a Member of the House of Commons †,
1699.

S I R,

1. **Y**OURS of the 20th past, acquaints me, that Page 3.
you have lately received a dismal Account of the
Decay of Trade, particularly of the Silk Manufacture
of *England*. And therefore you depending upon my Ve-
racity and Knowledge in this Case, desire I would give
you the best Information I can about it.

2. I shall deal impartially, but restrain myself chiefly Page 4.
to the weaving Trade in and about the Cities of *London*
and *Canterbury*; not doubting but that *Norwich* and
Bristol will speak loudly for themselves, as having but
too just Cause.

3. The Weavers, and Silk and Mohair Throsters are Page 5.
a numerous Company. From the Restoration to the
Revolution, this profitable and necessary *Broad-weaving*
Trade increased * nineteen Parts in twenty, to what it
was before. And although the Foundation of our Deso-
lation

† The Affair, of the Woolen Manufacture in *Ireland*, being
ended, the Minds of the People were again turned upon the
Business of *East-India* Silks and Callicoes, from which they
had been diverted for a while, and perhaps by some Ma-
nagement of the *East India* Company.

* By how much the Use of Woolen Manufacture was
abated in *England* (as no doubt it was something) by the In-
crease of the Silk and Mohair Manufacture; by so much was
that of the *English* Wool Grower, the Interest hurt, and the
only Interest that was hurt by it; for the Poor are equally
employed and sustained by one Manufacture, as by another.
But the Case is quite different with the Wool Grower, if
any Thing is done which works upon the Woolen Manu-
facture (as all other Manufactures, *viz.* of Silk, Cotton,
Hair, &c. certainly do, in a Degree, some more, and
some less) because, by Law, he is prohibited to export his
Wool, upon any Terms whatsoever, be the Demand for it
at home never so small.

lation which was before (as 'tis said) by Br—y attained, began its Effects towards the End of King *Charles's* Reign; and that vast Quantities of *East-India* wrought Silks were brought over, it was chiefly to the Prejudice of the *Woolen* Manufacture. For then the better Sort of Women scorned them, and they were mostly used instead of *Serges*, *Tammies*, and *Norwich* Stuffs: But that produced such dismal Effects, that the Growth of several Years Wool lay to moth-eat, till the Invention of Silks and Worsted Crape gave new Life, both to the Wool and Silk Manufactories, and rendered the *Indian* Silks and Stuffs contemptible to all Sorts of People. And to the Advantage of all Parts and Places where those Manufactures were settled, many Fields were turned into Streets, and Houses let before they could be finished.

Page 6.

4. But now, alas, there is such an utter Decay * of Trade, especially the weaving Part, that the Master who

		<i>l.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>
<i>British Merchant</i> , vol. 2. p. 314, 315.	* The whole Exports from <i>England</i> }			
	in 1662, amounted to ——— }	2,022,812	04	0
	In 1668-9 to ——— }	2,063,274	19	0
	In [this Year] 1699 to ——— }	6,788,166	17	6
	In 1662, or in 1668, the exported Woolen Manufactures, could not exceed the Value of }	0,900,000	00	0
	But in [this Year] 1699 they amounted to	2,932,292	17	6

So that Trade in general, and the Woolen Exportation Trade in particular, was very far from being under any Decay; and if the Woolen and Silk Manufacturers found a Want of Employment at this Time, it must have been, in regard to the latter, from the excessive Importations of *East India* Goods; to the former, from the same Cause, added to the vast Increase of the Silk Manufacture in *England*. Nor is it impossible but that the Woolen Manufacturers might be distressed, and under all the Symptoms of a decaying Trade, notwithstanding the then large Exportation of Woolen Goods; because the home Consumption of Woolen Goods has been estimated at about three Times as much as the Woolen Goods usually exported: And therefore a Decay in the home Consumption, might possibly be the Case now; as also again in the Year 1737-8, when the like Complaints were made by the Manufacturers, and the Price of Wool extremely low, at the same Time

British Merchant,
vol. 2.
p. 400.

who formerly employed *Twenty or Thirty*, or more, cannot now employ four, nor find them full Work. The rest are put to miserable Shifts; and many dye of a Disease, in plain *English*, called *Starving*. This is notoriously the Case in the several Parishes about *Aldgate*, *Bishopsgate*, *Cripplegate*, *Shoreditch*, *Stepney*, *St. George's Southwark*, and the *Tower-Hamlets*. Page 7.

5. And here, as one Cause, I cannot but take Notice of a Mistake, which Multitudes of well-meaning Persons make, in imagining, that by wearing fine *English* Cloth, they were great Consumers of *English* Wool; which is a great Error. For it hath been proved more than once before the Parliament, that no Cloth of above 10 s. a Yard white, or 13 s. per Yard in mix'd Colours, sold at *Blackwell-Hall*, hath one Dram of *English* Wool therein. And so all the better Sort become only the Consumers of *Spanish* Wool; and by this Means, *Hair Camblets*, *Prunello's*, *Callimancoes*, *Velvets*, *Silks*, &c. are much disused; though for purchasing the Materials whereof they were here made, our own Cloth Manufactures were in great Quantities exported, and to which a great Stop by that Means is made; so that hereby a double Manufacture is discouraged, and a double Gain to the Nation lost: For he that wears a Hair Camblet Coat, or Cloak, or Prunello Gown, or any Sort of Hair or Silk, Velvet or Shag, is, in the Effect, a more true Consumer of Wool, than he that wears fine Cloth. *Grogran*, or *Mohair* Yarn, of which the aforesaid Commodities are made, being generally the Product or Exchange of our coarsest *English* Woolen Cloth. And before the War, we had attained to that Perfection, not only to serve ourselves with Hair Camblets, which before, used to be sent us from *Brussels* and *Holland*, but to serve the wisest, *Paris*, and other *French* Merchants. Page 11.

6. The

Time that the English Exports of Woolen Goods were vastly great. But to have the same Consumption of Woolen Goods very much interrupted, and the Market for Wool in England thereby abated, and withal, to prohibit absolutely its taking the Benefit of any other Market, is a Hardship peculiar to the English Wool Grower, such as no other Interest in the Kingdom labours under; a Policy, the like whereof does not appear to be practised in any other Part of the whole World besides. See Ch. 176. P. 5. 40.

Page 13.

6. The unreasonable and indiscreet Preference of *India Manufactures*, especially that of *India Silks* and *Stuffs*, hath almost wholly overthrown, and unhinged, this profitable and necessary Trade of *Silk Throwing* and *Weaving*, by which vast Multitudes of People of both Sexes, young and old, lately, lived comfortably, who now starve. By this Means, the whole clothing Trade of *England* was upheld, which now sinks.

Ch. 68.

§. 4.

7. This great Inconvenience, or rather Mischiefe, was first brought on us about thirty Years since, by the *East-India Company's* sending over several of our *English* skilful *Weavers*, *Dyers*, and *Pattern-Drawers*, &c. to instruct the *Indians* in such Methods as suited the *Eurapean* Fancies; before which Time, all Things they sent were contemptible, and the Ladies scarce thought them good enough for *Kitchen Maids*, but now so esteem them, that our *Silk Manufacture* is on the Brink of Destruction.

Page 16.

8. The Advocates for our *East-India Trade*, are pleased at all Times, to extol and magnify our *Merchandise* and *Navigation*, as the Foundation of our Wealth and Prosperity. And doubtless, they are very likely to maintain it, who carry away our Money and destroy our Manufactures. Indeed, the *East-India Company* was lately obliged to export yearly, 100,000 *l.* worth of *Woolen Manufactures*. But there was no Profit in this: They cannot sell Cloth in those Places, whence they bring those ready wrought Silks, which destroy our Manufactures at home; but were forced to vend it at those Markets, where the *Turkey* Merchants had otherwise sent it, and so became a Hinderance to their Trade, which is otherwise more profitable to us, than this *India Trade* in vast Cargoes of ready wrought Silks, in Exchange for our Gold and Silver, which is sure to return to our Use no more.

Page 17.

Ch. 70.

§. 13.

9. When these Cargoes arrive, our Ladies are so charmed with them, that no other Form or Manner of Silk than what they last brought, must be the Standard of our Mode and Fashion. So that when our *London* and *Canterbury* Weavers, against the Spring Trade, have provided many Lutestrings, &c. good as the World can afford; in comes an *East-India Ship* with *Damasks* and *Sattins*, which makes the Mode for that Spring; and the

the *English* Fabricators must keep that Years Goods, or sell them to vast Loss; and then are constrained, with vast Costs and Charges to alter their Fashion for the next Year; when in comes more *East-India* Ships with Goods of quite another Form; and all the Weavers are in the Dirt again. Thus, for several Years, have the *London* and *Canterbury* Weavers been disappointed; inasmuch, that Numbers of them are undone; some being tired out, have left off; others have fallen into the Worsted-weaving. And I doubt not but that famous Corporation and City of *Norwich* has, and will feel, the ill Effects of it.

10. But this Matter is accounted nothing with many; Page 20. and they commonly say, That the Silk-weaving and Throwing, with all its Dependants, had better be destroyed, than the *East-India* Trade obstructed or prejudiced. For (say they) though, in the first Instance, they do send out great Store of Money, to purchase the *India* Silks and Toys; yet in the End, they bring back more Money from other *European* Countries for the same, by which the Nation is enriched.

11. Though I have much to say against the Truth of this: What I now complain of, is the *Home Consumption* of those Manufactures, which will inevitably destroy not only our *Silk*, but our *Woolen Manufactures*: And that I may commend you to a compleat Judge in this Case, Pray read the '*Essay upon the Indian Trade*,' Ch. 79: whom I take to be the best Advocate for that Company, this Age hath afforded; and I suppose he may have been as well paid for it. It is a Pity so fine a Pen should be employed in so bad a Cause; but for his ingenious *Confession* of that Truth, which, if rightly considered, gives it up, we may forgive him. §. 3. 12

12. Thus, Sir, I have laid before you, what I apprehend to be the Causes of this desperate Decay of Trade; and hence the Remedies are visible; our Home Consumption of *East-India* wrought Silks, is the Decay both of our *Clothing* and *Silk Manufactures*. And if I might, I would advise People of all Qualities, Age, or Sex; to the wearing of Garments and Ornaments of Silk, or *Grogran* Yarn of *English* Make; for this is the Return of *English Woolen Cloth*; and nothing could conduce more to the Advantage of the *English* Merchants trading to

to Turkey, Spain, Italy, and other European Parts. And therefore I intreat and beg of you, that you will use your utmost Interest and Rhetorick, to persuade and prevail, that *Camblet Cloaks, Coats and Gowns, Silk, Mohair, &c. and Manufactures here made of Silk and Grogran Yarn*, may be the Wearing preferred and encouraged. For this is the true Interest of the *Turkey Trade*, and in it, the great Interest of *England*.

Page 40.

13. From what hath been said, I think it may plainly appear, That no less than a Prohibition, or Stop, of the *Hans Consumption* of all Sorts of *East-India Silks* and *Stuffs*, except *plain Persian Taffeties*, and such like, of plain Make, can preserve the *Silk Weavers* and *Throsters* of *England*, and those great Numbers that depend upon them. And therefore, I beg and beseech you, Good Sir, for God's Sake, and for your *Country's Sake*, and for the Sake of those *numberless Multitudes of Poor* before-mentioned, that you would employ all your Interest to gain some *effectual Prohibition* of wearing any *flowered, spotted, or striped Silk of Indian Make*. (See P. S.)

14. P. S. *An Act for the more effectually employing the Poor, by encouraging the Manufactures of this Kingdom*, 11, 12 Will. III. c. 10. *

15. *An*

See
Ch. 81.
§. 16.
Note.

Serious
Considerations on the
several
high Du-
ties, &c.
1743.
p. 22, 23.

* This Act recites, ' That the Continuance of the Trade to *East India*, in like manner as had been for *two Years* before, must inevitably be to the great Detriment of this Kingdom; by exhausting its Treasure, melting down the Coin, and taking away the Labour of the People,' and therefore prohibits, ' after the 29th of September 1701, the wearing, and otherwise using, all wrought Silks, Bengals, and Stuffs mixed with Silk or Herba, of the Manufacture of *Persia, China, or East India*, and all Callicoës painted, dyed, or stained there. .

N. B. *Hereupon has been said*, ' This Act was procured by that great Statesman, the *Earl of Hallifax* (while he was Mr. *Montague*.) What Good this has done, I leave others to judge. But this I know, that this very Nobleman declared to a Person of Credit (who told it me) that in his Life-time he had never done any Thing which he so sincerely repented of; but it was now grown so popular among the Weavers, and others of the inferior Sort, that it would be dangerous to attempt to repeal it.

I shall

15. An Act to repeal an Act made in the ninth Year of his Majesties Reign for rendering the Laws more effectual for preventing the Importation of foreign Bone-Lace, &c. c. 11. †

16. An Act for the immediate taking away the Duties upon Woolen Manufactures, &c. exported, and of the Subsidy of the Aulnage Duty of all Woolen Manufactures in England and Wales, upon the Expiration of two Grants, or Leases, to Charles Duke of Richmond and Lenox, for sixty Years, (from 16 Car. II.) c. 12.

17. An Act for — — and for explaining the Act intituled, An Act to prevent, &c. (See Ch. 85. §. 7. †) 11, 12 Will. III. c. 13.

C H A P.

I shall not in the least question the Varacity of this Gentleman, who does not speak, as from Lord Hallifax himself; but I cannot help thinking, that he was some Way or other, either mistaken, or imposed upon, about this Matter; seeing it was the same Mr. Montague, who afterwards, when Earl of Hallifax, was the 'Support' and 'Spirit' of the Paper call'd Ch. 97. *The British Merchant (1713, 1714.) which was wrote exactly upon the very same Principles which procured this Act; and wherein is laid down for a Maxim. 'That the* Ch. 98. *Importation of such Goods as hinder the Consumption* §. 10. *of our own, or check the Progress of any of our Manufactures, is a visible Disadvantage (See Ch. 100. Ch. 80. Ch. 117. §. 6, 7, 8.)*

† Reciting, 'That great Complaints are daily made of *Complaints* the Decay of the Woolen Manufactures in the Kingdom, *of a Decay* and that by Experience it is found, that the above Act *of the* for preventing the Importation of foreign Bone Lace, has *Woolen* been one great Cause thereof, by being the Occasion that *Manufa* our Woolen Manufactures are prohibited to be imported *Sure. See* into Flanders. And therefore the said Act is repealed *the Exports* the End of three Months, to commence from the Time §. 4. *of* of the taking off the Prohibition of the *English Woolen* *this Ch.* Manufactures in Flanders.' (See Ch. 114. §. 16.) *Note.*

‡ By this Act, the Clause concerning Wool, Woolfells, &c. exported from Ireland, is not to extend to Woolfells, &c. for Gunners Stores, &c. or for Cloth, &c. for any one Mariners Clothes, &c. not exceeding 40s.

C H A P. LXXXVIII.

Occurrences and Acts, 1700—5.

Aug. 10, 1700.

1. **T**O the King's Majesty, The Lords and Commons in Parliament assembled.

The humble Petition of Ezekiel Goddard of Kings Lyn, in the County of Norfolk, in Behalf of many Millions now employed in the Woolen Manufacture of this Kingdom, Humbly Sheweth.

Whereas the Woolen Manufacture is exceedingly decayed, in so great Measure, that many Thousands have not Employment at all, wherewith to buy Bread; and without Doubt, this is occasioned by the Exportation of Wool, Woolfels, and Yarn, made of Wool, whereby the Subjects of other Nations are employed and enriched, and those of this Kingdom impoverished; and your Petitioner having a long Time been sensible of the same, he humbly conceives, that he hath found out a Way how to prevent this Mischief, viz. as follows *.

2. In

* As there was nothing in this Petitioner's Scheme, which had not been offered by one or other before, or which was not a Part of the Laws then in Being, I shall not trouble the Reader with it; having only inserted thus much, for another Reason, namely, as one Evidence among others, that it was the Sense of People, that Wool was at this Time, and for Years past, exported.

I may here further Note a Mistake in this Petitioner, and others his Cotemporaries, in imagining (altho' Wool was pretty much exported, both from *England* and *Ireland*) the foreign Trade of *England* to be then at a low Ebb; the Reverse whereof appears plainly, from the *Custom-House*

- 7 Ch. 87. Accounts in the last Year, 1699^r; and will again appear
 §. 4. Note. in 1703^r. But as it is not the Way of Mankind to be
 * Ch. 88. much pleased with the present State of Things, and as there
 §. 4. never was a Period, in which, if popular Complaints were

2. In the Year 1701, was printed by Way of Dialogue, between a Merchant and a Clothier, a small Tract intituled, ‘ The Interest of *England*, in Relation to the Woolen Manufacture,’ viz.

Preface. The Woolen Trade casts but a very gloomy Aspect upon us, and seems almost ready to transport herself, from her native Island into more Welcome Embraces. The Design of this Dialogue is, briefly to show how ill she is, and has been, treated; the great Danger we are in of losing her; and humbly to offer some Methods to regain her Affection and prevent her Escape.

Clothier. What a sad Account had we lately from *France*, that in one Year, there were exported into three Towns, 30,000 Packs of *English* Wool. Trade was bad, during the War, but since the Peace, it has sensibly diminished.

Merchant. I must needs own, that Trade has been very bad since the Peace †. But the great Stroke that has

to be wholly credited, the Nation was not upon the Brink of Ruin; so in order to form a true Judgment, it is necessary to look out for other Signs. And so far as regards foreign Trade, the *Custom-House* Accounts, tho’ not infallibly correct, are the best Rules we have to judge by.

But then, for the *home Trade* and *home Consumption*, which is thought to be the much greater, and more considerable Market, that is a Point, about which, there is no arriving at any Thing near a Certainty; only when exotic Garments become a general Wear, that will show itself to every Eye, in a Degree, (altho’ the Difference cannot be computed,) and be severely felt by the Manufacturers particularly. And as the Time for wearing *East India* Goods was not yet expired, there might possibly be Truth in what this Petitioner alleges, about Numbers wanting Employment at this particular Time, notwithstanding that the foreign Trade for Woolen Goods appears, at the very same Time, to have been so much better than in any preceding Period, especially since *Edw. VI.* and *Queen Elizabeth*. But then ’tis plain, that the real Cause of Persons now wanting Employment, was overlook’d; and hearing of Wool exported, and of Woolen Manufacture in neighbouring Countries, it was vulgarly conceived to be, *all*, the Effect of *English* and *Irish* Wool, and so much clear Loss to the Nation.

† We have here a remarkable Instance, how little Credit
Vol. II. D is

- has been given to your Trade, has proceeded from the Prohibitions laid upon Cloth in *Flanders* ^a.
- ^a Ch. 87. §. 15. *Salmon's Chronol. Hist.* 1702. *British Merchant*, vol. 2. p. 123. Page 134.
3. *A. D.* 1702. The Queen recommended to Parliament, the preventing the Exportation of Wool, and the Improvement of that Manufacture.
4. Our Exports to all the World were, *A. D.* 1703, £ 6,644,103 00 00 (See Ch. 49. §. 2. Note. Ch. 43. P. S. Ch. 34. §. 9.)
5. *OE.* 23. The King of *France* issued an Arret, ordaining, that the Stuffs called Bays, Perpetuanas, &c. of their own Manufacture sent to *Italy*, shall pay but 30 Sols per 100 Duty †.
6. A

is due to Writers in this Way, when delivering themselves in general Terms only, without some particular Proof. In this Dialogue, it is both asserted, and allowed, that Trade had been very bad, since the Peace; and indeed I believe, Wool was not at this Time nominally so dear, as it had been in some Time at least during the War. But besides that we shall have other Opportunities of shewing, that (as the Law then stood, and yet stands) the Price of Wool is no real Test of the *English Woolen Exportation Trade*, the intrinsic Value of the *English Silver Coin*, now, after the Regulation thereof, was greatly different from what it had been before. A Guinea, which before exchanged for 30 s. was now equal but to 21 s. 6 d. so that Wool, now, at a Guinea a Tod, was equal to Wool sold, during the bad State of the Coin, at 30 s. per Tod. And therefore if the Price of Wool was any Test of the State of the *English Woolen Exportation Trade* (which it is not) there is no Proof from thence of any particular Decay of Trade at this Time. But moreover, there happens to be all the positive Evidence to the contrary that can be desired. In the Year 1699 ^b, the Woolen Exportations from *England*, amounted to a larger Sum than had been known in any one Year before or after, to the Year 1713, as may be concluded from the *British Merchant*. Again, the *British Merchant* shews, that the Woolen Exportations from *England*, were at this particular Period, not only large, but at good Prices. His Words are ^c, 'On that Peace [of *Reswick* 1697.] as soon as we were able to go free, and Freights and Insurance were very easy and reasonable, all *English Goods* proper for the *Spanish Markets* advanced considerably. For Instance, *Colchester Bays* rose from 17 d. to about 24 d. the *Flemish Ell*.'

† 'This was to enable the *French Merchants* to furnish *Italy* with these Goods, as cheap as the *English Manufacturer* could do.'

^b Ch. 87. §. 4. Note.

^c *British Merchant*, vol. 3. p. 96.

6. A Treaty was signed at *Lisbon* between *England* Vol. 1:
and *Portugal* *. p. 209.

7. To evince further the Practice of exporting *Wool* in this Period, as also before, it is proper to insert here an Extract of some Informations on that Head, although they they were not printed in *England* until 1708, but at *Dublin*, in 1706, viz.

Captain *Joseph Brooks* proves a constant Practice for several Years, before the late Wars with *France*, of sending *Wool* thither; particularly nineteen Ships going into *Nantz* and *St. Malo*; fifteen of which were brought thither, by one *Hays* and *Roach* of *Yaughal*; and that during the late War, *Roach* brought nine Ships laden

D 2

with

* ' By which his Majesty of *Portugal* promises for himself and Successors, to admit for ever hereafter into *Portugal*; the *Woolen Cloths*, and the rest of the *Woolen Manufactures* of the *Britains*, as was accustomed, 'till they were prohibited by the Laws; nevertheless, upon Condition, that the *Wines of Portugal* be admitted into *Britain*, for one Third less Duty than the *French Wines*.

' This Treaty immediately produced the good Effects foreseen by that able Minister (*Mr. Methuen*) whom her Majesty employed to make it, who by a perfect Knowledge of the *Portuguese Trade*, knew the Consequences. He had been Envoy extraordinary in the Year 1691, and continued employed in that Country, until the Year 1697; and in the Year 1700 was sent again, and continued until the Year 1703, that this Treaty was made. And the Success answered; for from that Treaty's first taking Place, the Balance of Trade began to take Place, and the Year 1703, was the first Year we began to bring off the Silver of that Nation. Before, from the Time of their prohibiting of our Cloth, Cloth Serges, and Cloth Druggets, &c. (which continued 20 Years) we never had an Over- Vol. 2.
' balance, so as to bring from thence, either Gold or p. 44.
' Silver.'

It may be observed from this Instance, and many others, that almost the whole Secret of promoting the *Woolen Trade* of *England*, consists in proper Treaties for the Admission of our *Woolen Goods* into other Countries, that they be neither expressly prohibited, nor by Duties tantamount. But from the Year of the Restoration, we have been chiefly intent upon what is neither possible, nor, if it was, of so much Significance, as is commonly imagined; namely, to prevent the Exportation of *Wool*, by prohibitory Laws.

with Wool, &c. into the Port of *Nantz*; at another Time, four Ships from *Ireland* laden with Wool, &c. at the same Port.

Mr. B. M. late of *London*, Merchant, coming from *Roan* in *France*, where he had settled a Correspondence, during the Interval of Peace, went into *Ireland*; and settling on the Coasts of *Wexford*, in one Years Time, made four Voyages into *France* with Wool pressed into Beef Barrels. Mr. D. and Mr. A. of *Glandore*, do prove this Practice for several Years. Captain N. in *August* 1701, carried great Quantities of combed Wool skrewed into Beef Casks; in the same Ship, another great Quantity of combed Wool, of which Mr. W. of *Waterford* was Merchant. The said Captain N. in *June* 1704, being taken and carried, by a *French* Privateer, into *St. Malo*, having the Liberties of the Town, saw great Quantities of Wool brought thither. There were given in to the Committee of Lords in Parliament, in 1704, an Account of many Ships then in the Ports of *Rochel*, *Nantz*, and *Bourdeaux*, with Wool, &c. from *Ireland*; which was the Occasion of the Author's being summoned before the Lords, sent into *Ireland*, and made Surveyor of the Coasts there. But lately there were many Informations brought to Mr. *Crawley*, Register of the Court of Admiralty, of many Ships arrived in several Ports of *France* from *Ireland*, with the like Commodities. In *April* 1705, when Sir *George Bing* brought to *Kinsale*, a *French* Man of War, with several Merchant Ships bound from *Martinico* to *France*; several Prisoners, *Irish* Men, being examined, confessed a constant Trade and Practice, as is before-mentioned.

8. An Act † for the effectual securing the Kingdom of England

† This Act impowers the Queen to appoint Commissioners under the great Seal of *England*, to treat with Commissioners, that shall be authorized for that End, by the Parliament of *Scotland*, about the Union of both Kingdoms. And till such Time as the Succession to the Crown of *Scotland*, should be settled by the Parliament of *Scotland*, in the same Manner as the Succession to the Crown of *England* was then settled by Act of Parliament in *England*, enacts, ' That no Person being a Native of the Kingdom of *Scotland*, except then a settled Inhabitant within the Kingdom ' of

England from the apparent † Danger, that may arise from
several

‘ of England, or the Dominions thereunto belonging, should
‘ be capable of inheriting within the same, any Lands,
‘ Tenements, or Hereditaments, or of enjoying any Benefit
‘ or Advantage of a natural born Subject; but every such
‘ Person should be in all Respects deemed as an Alien *,
‘ born out of the Allegiance of the Queen of England. The
A^t further prohibits, ‘ the bringing of Cattle or Sheep, or
‘ Coals or Scotch Linen, from Scotland into England.’

‘ In the Beginning of the Reign of James I. viz. in 1606. ↗
‘ A Session of Parliament, which began the 18th of Novem: *Rapin,*
‘ was chiefly employed about uniting the two Kingdoms, which vol. 2.
‘ the King strongly solicited. To this End, Sir Francis Bacon, p. 174.
‘ the King’s Solicitor, was ordered to move and support it.
‘ But the Jealousy of the English was an Over-match for all
‘ his Rhetorick.

‘ The King hearing the Affair was not likely to succeed,
‘ sent for both Houses to Whitehall, and after having said to
‘ them what he thought fit in Favour of the Union, pro-
‘ ceeded to a nice Point (a: he had himself determined a Thing,
‘ which properly belonged to the Cognizance of Parliament)
‘ He said he was informed by the Judges, that there was a
‘ Difference between the Antenati and the Postnati of each
‘ Kingdom, i. e. such as were born before, and such as were
‘ born after his Accession to the Crown of England. That
‘ therefore he had published a Proclamation, declaring those
‘ to be naturalized in both Kingdoms, who were born since
‘ his Accession.

‘ In virtue, it seems, of this Proclamation, Judgment Note.
‘ was given in Westminster-Hall, in a Case called Calvin’s
‘ Case; which Case was reported (says Wilson) and adjudged
‘ by him, the Lord Chancellor Ellesmore, and most of the
‘ Judges in the Exchequer Chamber, and so became a Pre-
‘ cedent, and a Part of the Common Law of England, ‘till the
‘ passing of this Statute, 3, 4 Ann. c. 7.

† To understand the Reason of this, and the following
A^t, it is necessary to look back a little into the History of
some Affairs in Scotland.

May 9, 1695. ‘ The Parliament of Scotland meeting, *Burnet.*
‘ the Committee of Trade, after several Sitzings, prepared
‘ an A^t which procured the West Indian and African Com-
‘ pany there, and the Darien Enterprize. This A^t was
‘ passed, but proved (as will be seen) very fatal to Scotland.
‘ It was occasioned in this Manner. The Interlopers in the
‘ East India Trade, finding that the Company was like to be

several Acts lately passed in the Parliament of Scotland,
3, 4 An. c. 7.

9. An

W. M.
Parl. 1.
Sess. 4.
c. 32.

‘ be favoured by the Parliament, as well as by the Court,
‘ were resolved to try other Methods to break in upon that
‘ Trade. They entered into a Treaty with some Merchants
‘ of Scotland, and they had in the former^d Session, pro-
‘ cured an Act, that promised Letters Patents to all such as
‘ should offer to set up new Manufactures, or drive any
‘ new Trade not yet practised by that Kingdom, with an
‘ Exemption for 21 Years from all Taxes and Customs,
‘ &c. But here was a Necessity of procuring Letters Pa-
‘ tents, which they knew, the Credit that the *East India*
‘ Company had at Court, would certainly render ineffectual.
‘ So they were now in a Treaty for a new Act, which
‘ should free them from that Difficulty. There was one
‘ *Patterson*, a Man of no Education, but of great Notions,
‘ which, as was generally said, he had learned from the
‘ *Buccaneers* (with whom he had consorted for some Time.)
‘ He made the Merchants believe, that he had a great Se-
‘ cret, which he did not think fit yet to discover; only he
‘ desired, that the *West Indies* might be named in any new
‘ Act, that should be offered to the Parliament: He made
‘ them in general to understand, that he knew of a Country
‘ not possessed by the *Spaniards*, where there were rich
‘ Mines, and Gold in Abundance.

‘ While these Things were in Treaty, the Time of the
‘ King giving his Instructions to his Commissioner for the
‘ Parliament came on; and it had been a Thing of Course,
‘ to give a general Instruction, to pass all Bills for the En-
‘ couragement of Trade. *Johnsoun* told the King, that he
‘ heard there was a secret Management among the Mer-
‘ chants, for an Act in Scotland, under which the *East*
‘ *India* Trade might be set up; so he proposed and drew
‘ an Instruction, empowering the Commissioner to pass any
‘ Bill, promising Letters Patents, for encouraging of Trade,
‘ yet limited, so that it should not interfere with the Trade
‘ of England.

‘ When they went down to Scotland, the King’s Com-
‘ missioner, either did not consider this, or had no Regard
‘ to it; for he gave the Royal Assent to an Act, that gave
‘ the Undertakers either of the *East* or *West India* Trade,
‘ all possible Privileges, with an Exemption of 21 Years,
‘ from all Impositions. And the Act directed Letters Pa-
‘ tents to be passed under the Great Seal, without any fur-
‘ ther Warrant for them. When this was printed, it gave
‘ a great Alarm in England, more particularly, to the *East*
‘ *India*

9. *An Act to permit the Exportation of Irish Linen Cloth*

‘ *India Company*; for many of the Merchants of *London* resolved to join Stocks with the *Scotch Company*, and the Exemption from all Duties gave a great Prospect of Gain,

‘ In *December* following, the *English Parliament* addressed the King against the Act passed in *Scotland*, for erecting a Company to trade to *Africa* and the *East Indies*; among other Things, representing, *that when that Nation should have settled themselves in Plantations in America, the English Commerce in Tobacco, Sugar, Cotton, Wool, &c. would be utterly lost.* The King answered, that he had been ill served in *Scotland*. But he hoped, &c.

The Trade of Wool, &c. in America.

‘ However, this Business did not stop here; for the Committee appointed by the Commons, to examine by what Methods this Act was obtained, having made their Report, and delivered a Copy of an Oath *de fideli*, taken by the Directors of the *Scots East India Company* in *England*, it was resolved, *that the said Directors were guilty of an high Crime and Misdemeanor, and that they should be impeached for the same.*

‘ But when it was understood in *Scotland*, that the King had disavowed the Act, from which it was expected, that great Riches should flow into that Kingdom, it is not easy to conceive how great and general an Indignation was spread through that Kingdom. The Company had endeavoured by their Agents, to get Subscriptions in *England, Holland, and Hamburgh*, and had met with Encouragement from private Persons in all those Places.

‘ The *English and Dutch, Indian and African Companies* took the Alarm; and a Stop was put to the Subscriptions the *Scotch Agents* were taking. The King was even prevailed with, to permit his Minister at *Hamburgh*, to present a Memorial to the Senate against it.

‘ Hereupon, in 1698. The *Scots India Company* lay their Grievances before the Parliament of *Scotland*, then assembled at *Edinburgh*. The Parliament made their Representation by an Address to the King, which the Company seconded with a Petition. Upon the Whole, the Affair occasioning great Heats, the Commissioner saw Reason for an Adjournment. But notwithstanding the Repulses they had met with in *England, &c.*; in *April 1699.* the *Scots* settled a Colony at the Isthmus of *Darien* in *America*; the News whereof, alarmed most of the Nations of *Europe*. The *Spanish Ambassador* at *England* particularly, presented a Memorial against it. Great Dis-

Clotb to the Plantations, and to prohibit the Importation of Scotch Linen into Ireland. c. 8.

C H A P.

‘ putes and Apprehensions from *Spain*, were raised about it
‘ in *England*. The *Engliſh* Plantations became jealous
‘ thereof, and Proclamations were publiſhed in the King’s
‘ Name, againſt holding any Correſpondence with the *Scots*
‘ at *Darien*. In the End, the whole Affair miſcarried ;
‘ partly for want of Skill and Stock, in thoſe who managed
‘ it, partly by the Baſeneſs and Treachery of thoſe whom
‘ they employed.

‘ The Conduct of the King’s Miniſters was much cen-
‘ ſured in the whole Progreſs of this Affair, for they had
‘ connived at, if not encouraged it ; but now it was not ſo
‘ eaſy to cure the univerſal Diſcontent, which the Miſcar-
‘ riage of this, to the impoveriſhing of the whole Kingdom,
‘ had raiſed, and which began to ſpread like a Contagion,
‘ among all Sorts of People.

Salmon’s
Chron.
Hiſt.

‘ On the 12th of *February* 1699, the Lords [of *England*]
‘ addreſſed the King againſt the Re-eſtabliſhment of the *Scots*
‘ Colony at *Darien* ; which gave his Majeſty occaſion again
‘ to propoſe an Union between the two Kingdoms of *Eng-*
‘ *land* and *Scotland*.

‘ The Commons, about the ſame Time, reſolved, that
‘ a Book intitled, *An Inquiry into the Cauſes of the Miſcar-*
‘ *riages of the Scotch Colony at Darien*, was a falſe, ſcan-
‘ dalous, and traiterous Libel.

‘ In *March* 1700, The *Scots* Nation petitioned the King
‘ to call a Parliament in that Kingdom, in order to re-eſta-
‘ bliſh the Affairs of the *African* and *East India* Company,
‘ which, they apprehended, laboured under very great
‘ Hardſhips, both at home and abroad ; whereupon the
‘ King promiſed them, their Parliament ſhould meet.
‘ *May* 14.

‘ *May* 21. The Parliament of *Scotland* being met, a
‘ Vote was propoſed, *That the Colony of Caledonia in*
‘ *Darien, was a legal and rightful Settlement, and that the*
‘ *Parliament would maintain and ſupport it*. Whereupon
‘ the high Commiſſioner adjourned them from Time to
‘ Time, to prevent the Queſtion being put ; of which the
‘ *Scots* complain in a national Addreſs to King *William*.
‘ *July* 30, the Duke of *Glouceſter* died ; and the 12th of
‘ *March*, an Act paſſed in the Parliament of *England*, limit-
‘ ing the Crown, after King *William* and the Princeſs *Anne*,
‘ to the Princeſs *Sophia* of *Hanover*, and the Heirs of her
‘ Body being Proteſtants. *March* 8, 1701, King *William*
‘ died. *June* 25, 1702, the Parliament of *Scotland* paſs
‘ an

' an Act, appointing Commissioners to treat of an Union
 ' with *England*. May 6, 1703, the Parliament of *Scotland*
 ' met, and refused to come into the Protestant Succession.
 ' August 5, 1704, the *Scots* also passed an Act, called the
 ' *Act of Security*; wherein they enact, that if the Queen
 ' died without Issue, the States of the Kingdom should
 ' have a Power to nominate a Successor. Four Days after,
 ' viz. August 9. An Act discharging the Importation of *History of*
 ' Woolen Manufactory, and allowing the Exportation *England*
 ' of Wool and Skins was read, which passed the House *from the*
 ' Aug. 23. *first of*

' The Parliament of *England* meeting in *October*, Lord *Q. Anne*,
 ' *Haverham* made a remarkable Speech, relating chiefly to *to the Con-*
 ' the Affairs of *Scotland*; for Consideration of which, the *clusion of*
 ' 29th of *November* was appointed, when the grand Com- *the Union,*
 ' mittee of Peers came to this Resolution, *That the best Me-* p. 219.
 ' *thod to prevent the Inconveniencies which might happen by*
 ' *the late Acts passed in Scotland, was, by making such*
 ' *Laws here for that Purpose.* It was suggested by Lord *Contin. of*
 ' *Wharton*, That the Queen be enabled by Act of Parlia- *Rapin,*
 ' ment, on the Part of *England*, to name Commissioners to p. 675.
 ' treat about an Union with *Scotland*, provided that these
 ' Powers be not put in Execution, 'till Commissioners should
 ' be named on the Part of *Scotland*, by the Parliament
 ' there. By Lord *Halifax* it was suggested, That *Scots*
 ' Men should not enjoy the Privileges of *English* Men, ex-
 ' cept, &c. By Lord *Ferrers*, That the bringing of Cat-
 ' tle from *Scotland* to *England* be prevented. By the Earl
 ' of *Torrington*, That Orders be given to her Majesties
 ' Ships, to take such Ships as they shall find trading from
 ' *Scotland* to *France*. By Lord *Mobun*, That the Exporta-
 ' tion of *English* Wool into *Scotland*, be carefully hin-
 ' dered.

' These being approved by the House, the Judges were
 ' ordered to reduce them into Bills; one of which, for an
 ' entire Union with *Scotland*, was read a third Time, and
 ' pass'd Decem. 20, and sent to the Commons for their
 ' Concurrence, who presently acquiesced therein.'

These Acts gave Occasion, among other Things, to the fol-
 lowing Treaties.

C H A P. LXXXIX.

An Account Current between Scotland and England, balanced; together with an Essay of a Scheme of the Product of Scotland, and a few Remarks on each; as also a View of the several Products of the Ports or Nations we trade to, by comparing and holding forth how our Products and Manufactures may balance theirs with Returns. By John Spruel. Edinburgh, 1705.

1. **U**NTO his Grace John Duke of Argyll, her Majesty's High Commissioner, and the Right Honourable the Estates of Parliament.

May it please your Grace and Lordships,

I know many admire, that I appear in Print. But considering all Circumstances, they need not. For so soon as I heard the Parliament was coming upon Trade, I, of myself, (being nearly concerned) and at the Desire of many worthy Merchants, that pay no little by foreign Custom and Excise, have been forced undesignedly upon the Stage, humbly to offer to your Grace and Lordships, the Schemes and Remarks following, in relation to our Trade; offering to prove, *That Scotland's Product and Manufactures are able to balance our Trade, with any, or all Parts, and Kingdoms, we do, or need to Trade to.* So that it may be seen plainly, That though England join with us in Union or Communication of Trade, they will not be married to a Beggar, with whom they should find nothing but a Loufe in our Bosom the first Night, (as Sir Edward S—— was pleased to reflect on us) yet that this Land is full of Product; if, by your Wisdoms and Care, we be stirred up to improve it abroad and at home, and not always suffer ourselves to be served, as is fabled of the two Crows with the Shell-fish.

2. None

2. None of my Station is, and shall be, more desirous to see and hear of a better Understanding cultivate betwixt *England* and *Scotland*. But seeing the Parliament of *England*, last Session, have discharged all our valuable Goods from being imported into *England*, after 25 *Dec.* next, and their breaking the Act *post nati* ; * Ch. 88. which, of a long Time, they have not kept, nor yet §. 8. *Nota*, the strictest Union could be made betwixt the two Nations: May not your Lordships consider, and weigh, the Balance of Trade and Remarks thereon, which makes it plain, (according to the great Law of Necessity) that unless that, or the like Draught of an Act offered unto the Parliament by ——— be considered, agreed upon, and enacted, discharging in like Manner, all Goods to be imported from *England* and *Ireland*, after 25 *Dec.* next, &c. Otherwise what may be the Consequences? It's downright a Sword, or Rod, above our Heads. Let us balance them still, *until we accord*; it's but Self-Defence.

3. My Lords, as to what I humbly offer by this Scheme upon Trade, and the Remarks upon the same, is to put you in Remembrance of Things, and to show my own, and the Pulse of many People. I have many Things to add that are omitted, by Reason of Pinch of Time.

I am,

May it please your Grace, &c.

John Spruel.

4. In regard, by an Act of Parliament ' in *England*, * Ch. 88. last Session of Parliament, all Linen Cloth, Black Cat- §. 8. tle, Sheep, &c. is discharged to be imported into *England*, after 25 *Dec.* next; which may be calculat to 120,000 *l.* Sterl. more or less, until an exact Abbreviat of the Custom Books be obtained. *Quer.* Whether or not, may the Wisdom of Queen and Parliament of *Scotland* (according to that ancient Law of *Lex Talionis*) pass an Act, discharging the Importation of any of the following Goods, *viz.* 1. All *East-India* Muslins and Callicoets, &c. and that none of our Linen Yarn may be exported, but the fine employed to make fine Muslins, &c. to serve

serve ourselves at home. 2. That all Silks, or Silk Stuffs, or Purflaine, or *China Ware*, be discharged, the which above, particularly, may carry off the Kingdom yearly, which may be preserved — — £ 50,000 Sterl.

3. That no Tobacco be imported, but rather to serve ourselves, by planting it at home, so in Time, to preserve into the Kingdom, — — 20 or 30,000

4. No Sugars in Casks, or Loaves to be imported from *England*, but to be supplied from any other Place, where we can purchase it with our Product, and so preserve at home — — 6 or 10,000

5. That no Coaches, Horses, or Furniture to them be imported. No, &c. &c. All which may preserve into the Kingdom that is caaied off, — — 50,000

Summa Totalis. — — 141,000

Scotland may be Debit. to England per An. for Goods, — — 151,000

England may be Debit. to Scotland for Goods they have discharged after 25. Dec. next, — — 120,000

So that *Scotland* may be due to *England*, to balance yearly, — — 31,000

Besides which, the Nobility and Gentry spends, that is not mentioned.

5. Now *Queritur*. After 25 *Dec. next*, if the *Eng-lish* shall keep their Law sacred, and not repeal, or dispense with it, to keep up the Amity that remains, and prevent a Breach, till Things be accorded, and the Succession settled; what shall come of *Scotland*, if the Wisdom of our Queen and Parliament balance not our Accompts in time, that we may either continue Trade as before, and keep up the same Amity, and live as Neighbours, and trade one with another. Otherwise, one Year's Trade

Ch. 89. *Memoirs of Wool, &c.*

61

Trade with *England*, after the Discharge of our valuable Goods, may bring us in Debt yearly,— £ 150,000 Sterl.
And who knows, but we are in Debt

already, more or less, another — 100,000

Summa. — — 250,000

6. Is it not better to be wise in time, and retrench our Trade, by waneing ourselves from every thing that is superfluous, and with which we can serve ourselves at home, or any where else, where we can barter or exchange our Product for Goods we cannot want, and can purchase also Gold and Money * ?

7. The same great Improvement can be attested by many worthy Gentlemen in the North, and especially at *Aberdeen*, how great Increase of Profit arises upon the *Wool*. Industry of both rich and poor Women by one Stone of Wool, first in Spinning, then in Knitting it into fine Stockins, some Pairs whereof have given 10, 15, to *Stockins*. 20 and 30 s. Sterl. *per* Pair, even for Womens Stockins, and so are finer than Silk Stockins.

8. *Quer.* Should the Poor starve at home, whilst they can be profitably employed ? If the Wisdom of our Queen and Parliament would restrict us to wear Nothing but our own Manufacture made out of our own Product ; and would every Person resolve, and restrict themselves so to do, rather than out of Vanity, and too nice Curiosity, slight any Thing that is made at home, and only admire and purchase any Thing at a dear Rate, that is brought from abroad, purchased by Money or Bills ; especially, if the *English* take not our Goods discharged, why should we take theirs ?

9. As to Butter and Cheese, if the Gentlemen in the Country would inclose more Grounds, and the Farmers and Tenants study to make up their Butter in small Casks,

* The Author speaking of their Capacity, and Materials for making Muslin, fine Lace, &c. to serve themselves, instead of buying the same from the *English* Merchants, and to shew what Profit would arise from such a Manufacture, instances in a Gentlewoman of his Acquaintance, making 20 *lib. Scots*, of an Ounce or two of Thread, in Lace.

Casks, of 50 *lib.* Weight a Piece, and follow the *Irish* Way of making up their Cheese in handsome Chiffets, as they do here in some Places already, we may go near to serve ourselves at home, and by further Improvement, have considerable to export. For I know in the West Highlands, at *Mackloud*, and *Mackdonalds* Lands, there is as fine yellow Butter, and well made, as ever I saw from *Ireland*; but the not putting it up in clean and small Casks, disgraces the Butter. Was this remedied, and would the Gentlemen in the North, and at *Orkney*, teach their People to make up and handle their Butter more cleanly, and purge it better from the soure Milk and Dregs, with which they put it up, and churn oftner, and salt it up better, in small Casks that are close for keeping the Pickle, we might have enough for Export.

10. *As to Tallow and tanned Leather.* If *England* observe their last Act of Parliament, discharging importing our black Cattle and Sheep into *England*, then they will want 24 or 30,000 Hides for tanned Leather; which if we improve at home, by discharging all tanned Leather from *England* and *Ireland*, we may preserve 15, if not 20,000 *l. Sterl.* next, by Tallow, 15, if not 18750 *l. Sterl.* So that by the Hides tanned, and Tallow rined and sent abroad, or made in Candle and exported, we shall make as much, if not more, than we get in *England* for our Cattle, and have 24 or 30,000 Carcases of fresh Beef, a Part of which sold at home, will lower our Mercats, and the rest (suppose one half) salted, will make 15 or 20,000 Barrels of Beef for Exportation, which will yield 20, and some 30 *s.* the Barrel.

11. *As to Horses and Coaches and Furniture to them*, it is a Pity, or rather a Shame, that whilst our Gentry have so many excellent Inclosures and Parks, and those that have not as yet, may have them, they do not bring up a Brood of fine Horses, either for the Coach or Saddle, as the Duke *Hamilton*, Marquess of *Tweeddale*, Earl of *Crawford*, Earl of *Heptoun*, and many others, excellent true Countrymen, have done; as the Lord *Cesinack*. In his Ground many fine Horses have been brought up, and I am told of one fine Horse, the Duke of *Aibol* got from the late Lord *Cesinack*, and of another sold for 30 Guineas, and how many other Gentlemen that I know not,

not, tho' some I know, and also Farmers and Countrymen, such as in *Cunninghame, Catrick, Kilbride and Eaglesome*; as also by many Gentlemen and others in the Highlands. So as we need not cast away so much Money on Horses in *England*, nor Coaches, seeing we have good Workmen for making them, and Gilders for gilding, &c. All the other Particulars are now generally made at Home, and can be had both for Use and Export; our Tradesmen being both increased, and much improv'd, only wanting Encouragement.

12. *SCOTLAND'S Product and Manufacture, by which we may balance with any Port or Nation needful for us, besides other Privileges and Advantages we enjoy, are,* First, 100,000 fighting Men. 2. Silver and Gold, with Brass and Copper, if digg'd for, and search'd out. 3. Lead Mines. 4. Coals, East and West, for our own Use and Export, and Peats or Turf, where Coals are scarce. 5. Corn of all Sorts, as Barley, Wheat, Oats, Rye, Pease, and Beans, for our own Use, and some for Export. 6. Horses for our own Use at home, and for Export. 7. Black Cattle, producing Milk, Butter, Cheese, Tallow. Candle, tann'd Leather, salt Beef and Combs. 8. Sheep; hence, Tallow, Candle, Skins, *Sheep Wood* from which, Leather Gloves, Shambo. WOOL; hence and *Woolen Broad Cloth, Fingrines, Serges, Bays, Crapes, Temmin, Manu-factures* Glasgow Playds, and all Sorts of fine *Worsted Camblets, Bare of* and other *Stuffs*, and coarse Hats. 9. Flax. 10. Wild *Scotland.* Skins. 11. Birds. 12. white and green Marble. 13. fine Greek Stone. 14. Skelly or Slates. 15. fine blue Amethysts. 16. Hemp, many great Woods of Oak, Firr Trees, Walnut Trees. 17. Salmon, small Fish, Pearls. 18. Herrings, Cod and Ling, Oysters, Lobsters, Whales, Ambergreese, and white Coral, Wampumpig.

13. Here follows a short Essay, or Scheme, of the Product of all Ports, or Nations, we do, or need to trade to; and an Hint at what of *Scotland's* Product is fit and sufficient, not only to balance and purchase what foreign Goods we need from these Parts, but also to return Bills, Money, or Gold, from many Kingdoms; no Kingdom having such Variety, and Quantities of the most vendible Goods in all Parts, not *England* itself excepted, were it not for their great Improvement of their Woolen

Woolen Manufacturies, Lead and Pewter Mines, wherein we come short of them *.

Page 20. 14. *It is to be remarked upon our Wool and Woolen Manufacture*, that if the Improvement thereof is any longer slighted and neglected, we shall repent of it. For these have enriched *England*. May we not be denied to all Silks, or fine foreign Broad Cloths, and Stuffs, that is yet stolen in, and worn in Contempt of the Laws ?

Ch. 71.

§. 12. May we not restrict ourselves only to wear Stuffs and

Note.

Ch. 71. Cloths made of our own best Wool ? And may it not be granted, that none wear Cloth above ^a 9 lib. Scots per

§. 6. Note.

Ell, as is well advised by a worthy Gentleman, and that People would use more Worsted Camblets, of which I have seen made at *Hamilton* and *Glasgow*, very near to those Stuffs in *England*; for what they wanted in the Fineness of the Wool, they are finer in the Thread, and well wrought. In my humble Opinion, it might be of Advantage to Manufacturies, that Noblemen, and Gentlemen, were pleased sometimes to change their Wear from Cloth to Camblets, as in *England* or *Ireland*; there all People wait to see what is most in Fashion first in the Spring. And this would be better also for Tradesmen, and then to wear Cloth in the Winter.

15. *Baifes* is one Subject of Trade, that might consume more Wool than I dare mention. For if we could make 1000 Times more than we do, if rightly made, it would be exported and vended, being a Commodity through all *Spain* and the *Straights*, and the *Spanish* and *Portuguese* Islands. And how many Ships¹ Loading of it goes to *Holland* from *Colchester*, and *Serges* and other Goods from *Exeter* and *Topsfame* in whole Fleets, and other coarse Cloths from *Hull*; the like of which our best Wool might answer, and the coarsest for other Uses. But without short Skin Wool, I am told, *Baifes* cannot be so well made. And the Exportation of so many

Ch. 103.

§. 4.

* Here our Author enumerates most of the trading Places of the World, and the Commodities which they afford, and *Scotland* wants; assigning to each of those Places, in Return, such *Scotish* Commodities as are proper to them respectively; and to most of them, either Wool, or Sheep Skins, or Woolen Manufacture, of some, or of all the several Sorts mentioned, §. 12. (Fig. 8.)

many Skins will retard the making of Bayes. And it's a Shame, that some have begun so good a Work (as making Bayes) but they left it off ere it came to Perfection, though I know some continue it, which is Praise-worthy.

16. I know we have worthy Countrymen abroad, that would willingly join in Counsel and Stock, not only to advance so good a Work, as making of Bayes at home, and *Scots* Broad Cloth, &c. but would help to export and sell more of it abroad than we can make, if the good Rules offered by some worthy Persons in Parliament for due making, &c. were enacted and observed.

17. Next, were the Wool sorted, divided and separated; for of one Fleece of Wool, an Artift will make four, or five Sorts, and every Sort proper for the Use it is fittest for; whereas, if that Fleece of Wool were all carded through other, the * hairy Part spoils the finer. And this is the Complaint, Strangers abroad have advised me, against some of our Cloths, Stuffs, and Stockins; as also the not dying, (dressing, and right up-putting) with

* Here is an Argument (which will be confirmed by other Testimonies) against the Truth of that vulgar Notion, of Wonders to be effected by mixing finer *English*, with coarser foreign Wools. 'Tis, we see, a principal Art in Woolen Manufacture, to separate and sort the Wool duly of every individual Fleece, otherwise *the hairy Part spoils the finer*; which shews, that there can be no Advantage, but a great Loss, in confounding it again in the same Thread or Yarn, which is, to reduce it to the unprofitable Condition, of Wool unseparated and unsorted, in which Case, a small Part that is coarse and hairy, defaces the larger Quantity of finer. There is indeed a Mixture practised, and that in *England*, as well as in other Parts, of one Sort of Yarn or Worited for the Warp or Chain, another for the Woof or Shoot; which Mixture diversified, constitutes, in some Measure, the many different Species of Woolen Manufacture. But even in this, the Quality of the Goods is so much better or worse, dearer or cheaper, according to the Qualities of the Thread or Yarn, both of the Warp and Wool; and that Thread or Yarn, according to the Quality of the Wool from which it is spun. Not but that much depends also upon the Difference of Spinning.

with bright enough Colours. So as the Proverb is verified, many a Time, *we lose the Hog for the Halfpenny*; and a *small Matter* may blemish any thing.

18. There has been no little Money exported and paid for Wool into *England*, and this again exported into *Holland*, besides what is exported of our own Wool; inso-much, that I am credibly informed, there is above 10,000 *l. Sterl.* worth lying over Year into *Holland* unsold †; and yet here many is buying and exporting it this Year also. And because they have not, or could not sell what they sent the last Year, the Merchants here say, they cannot give the former Price this Year for the same Sort of Wool. And so the Store Masters get less for their Wool, than when it was prohibit to be exported. This I am informed of by the Sellers of it, and the Buyers also. And further, I am told, that some of their Wool sold one Crown dearer *per Stone*, when forbidden, and went all off their Hand, and the Country People had little or none lying on their Hand over Year. I wish it may not be found ere long, it had been better for them, they had exported less, if not none at all.

19. For

† Can we credit this, and at the same Time believe what we have heretofore met with, and shall hereafter find others saying, concerning the Quantities of *English* and *Irish* Wool exported yearly to foreign Parts (even to the Amount of, from 300,000 to 500,000 Packs) as also concerning the great Advantages to be made of *English* and *Irish* Wool abroad, by mixing every one Pack of it, with two, or three, of foreign Wool? Would it have been possible, in such Case, to have over-stocked the Markets abroad by such a Start of Exportation, as here mentioned; or could so small a Quantity, comparatively, as 10,000 *l.* worth, either have made any sensible Difference, or have laid over the Year unsold? Should we not rather imagine, that Foreigners would have taken this Opportunity of stocking themselves with so choice and valuable Commodity, for as long Time to come, as the same was capable of being preserved? But as, according to this Writer, so it was, that about 10,000 *l.* worth extraordinary, did at this Time, over-stock the Markets in *Holland*, which is a Market to the whole World; instead of giving into vulgar Mistakes, may we not rather conclude, that useful Wool at least, if not equally good to all Intents and Purposes, as *English* or *Irish*, is no such Rarity in foreign Countries, as we have been taught to imagine?

19. For if it be suffered to be exported, (it never sold better than when the *French* Merchants came here, and bought it themselves, both from the Merchants and Store-Masters) may it not be fit to lay on some Limitations, to prevent Persons over-cloying a Mercat, and rather let them come over, bring Money and buy it. But if the Store-Masters find it better for them, as it is, I have no more to say. Though the Poor at home suffers, that might be employed to manufacture it; and then the sending so much Wool to *Holland, Stockholme, and France*, doth inevitably hinder, and, as it were, forbid * them to buy our Cloths, Fingrines, Serges, Bayses, Stockins, and what not; seeing their own Poor can be fed and employed to make them at home.

20. If the Store-Masters get but ² 6 *lib. Scots* per Stone, ² 10 *s. Ster.* for the same Wool this Year, which they sold for 9 or ¹ 10 *lib. per* Stone last Year, when it was not suffered to be exported: Had not the Store-Masters better take ¹ 15 *s.* or ¹ 16 *s. 8 d.* 18 or 20 *lib. Scots* for two Stone, and give the third to the Poor of the Parish for Nothing, rather than give it ^{Ch. 90.} ^{5. 7.} to Strangers abroad, who beats down the Prices, and blows upon the Wool when too plenty, and Mercats overcloyed. The *Dutch*, in their Returns from the *Indies*, is said rather to throw out one Part of their Lading of Pepper, into the Sea, than break their Price, and lower their Mercat at home, which would overturn their Trade therein.

C H A P. XC.

Observations on the Accompt Current, &c.

1. **H**AD not the Union, of *England* and *Scotland*, took Place, in the Manner, and upon the Terms, which, we shall see ^m, it soon did; and if the Prohibition ^{= Ch. 91.} ^{E 2} ^{tion 5. 7, 8.} ^{Note.}

* To make this Argument quite good, it should be proved, that prohibiting absolutely, is the same Thing, as preventing totally, the Exportation of Wool; and also, that to prevent totally the Exportation of Wool, is in Effect, to invite or compel the People of *Holland, Sweden, and France*, to purchase these Cloths, &c.

tion of *Scotch Cattle*, &c. had continued, as in the Case of *Ireland*; it seems, as if *England* would have gained as little by that kind of Policy, in one respect, as in the other.

2. *Scotland* having thereby lost its Vent in *England* for the most considerable Part of its spare Product, with which they went to Market there for what they wanted, would have been driven to seek the like elsewhere, consequently, into a foreign Trade altogether; which must have lessened, so much, the Trade of *England*, as the Commerce and Custom of that Nation was before worth; when according to this Writer, not only their Imports from, exceeded their Exports to, *England*, but the latter were what *England* could very well dispense with, and a great deal of the former was what the *English* could as conveniently spare.

3. And though the Scheme of *Scotch Trade* exhibited by this Author of *The Account Current*, &c. is to be understood, as partly *potential* only, or what might be; yet a Part of it is also represented as then *actually existing*.

4. Salt Beef, for Instance, is spoke of as one Article thereof; after the same, for Exportation, was totally lost in *England*, to *Ireland*, in Consequence of prohibiting the Cattle of that Kingdom; and which, upon Continuance of the like Prohibition in *Scotland*, would have greatly improved there also; for that the Lands, and Means of feeding Cattle, breeding Horses, &c. were improveable by Inclosures, &c.

5. As to the Woolen Manufacture particularly, we find^a, they made Stockins at *Aberdeen*, from 10 to 30 s. Sterling per Pair; which, both for the Art and Material, exceeded any Thing of the Kind in *England*. They made, or had it in their Power to make, Broad Cloths^o of their own Wool, worth about 12 s. per Yard, which is not much inferior to the best *English* Cloth, of *English*^p Wool. They made then in *Scotland*, *Fingrines*, *Serge*, *Bayse*, *Temmins*, *Glasgow Playds*, and all Sorts of fine *Worsted Camlets*^q, and other Stuffs very near as good as in *England*, and *coarse* Hats.
- (Fig. 8.) 6. And though in Quantity, the *Scots* came far short of *England*, as well as somewhat in the Quality of their Woolen Goods (fine Stockins excepted, and Playds^r) yet
- ^a Ch. 89.
§. 7.
^o Ch. 89.
§. 14.
^p Ch. 87.
§. 5.
^q Ch. 89.
§. 12.
(Fig. 8.)
^r Ch. 120.
§. 14.

yet were they not so deficient, but that they might have put themselves into a Condition of doing without any *English* Woolen Manufacture themselves, which, it seems, by this Writer, they then purchased in pretty large Quantities, by Stealth, or Connivance, against the Laws^a of^b Ch. 71. their Kingdom. And not only so, but they might sur- §. 12. *Note.* ther, like *Ireland*, have become *England's* Rival in foreign Trade for Woolen Goods. For though their Country is not equally fertile in good Wool, as *England* and *Ireland* are; yet *Scotland* being more populous than *Ireland*, and withal, ingenious, and frugal, they might, and undoubtedly would, when forced upon it, have found Ways and Means of being furnished with sufficient Plenty of all proper Materials, viz. *Spanish*, *Irish*, and *English* Wool too, dying Stuffs, &c.

7. Lastly, Concerning the Price of Wool about this Time, it is to be observed from this Writer, as an indisputable Fact, that Wool in *Scotland*, of the Growth of that Kingdom, sold some Time the Year before^c,^d Ch. 89. viz. in 1704, at 9 or 10 *lib. Scots* per Stone, which was §. 20. 30 s. or 33 s. 4 d. Sterling per Tod; only with this Dis- *Wool in* ference, that the statutable Stone in *Scotland* was 16 *lib. Scotland* The Pound 16 Ounces Trois. (*James VI. Par. 11. 30 s. and* c. 114.) This the Author of *The Account Current*, &c. 33 s. 4 d. (somewhat contradicting himself, having first spoke of per Todd. vast Quantities being exported to *Holland*, in the Year 1704, infomuch, as to overstock the Market there, and that 10,000 *l.* worth of such Wool was said to lye then unfold) insinuates to have been, while Wool was prohibited^e to be exported. But, in Regard, the Act in^f Ch. 89. *Scotland*, for exporting Wool, passed so early as August §. 18, 19, 23, 1704; it is submitted to the judicious Reader, to con- 20. sider, whether 9 or 10 *lib. Scots* per Stone, was ordinarily the Price of the Wool of that Kingdom, or whether or no, it is not more likely to have advanced to that Price immediately upon the passing of the Act for Exportation, than that it should have sold dearer before, than afterwards; and whether a Strife, among Merchants and Wool Jobbers, for the Advantage to be made by such allowed Exportation, might not, for a while, raise the Market in *Scotland*, beyond what the Commodity would bear at a foreign Market, when naturally it would sink again to what it would bear. But whereas he speaks of

Wool being, this Year, 1705, not worth, or rather not likely to give so much as in the former, by one Crown *per Stone*, he does not affirm that for a Certainty; neither, I think, could he. For this Tract appears to have been printed in the Beginning of the Session in *Scotland*, which commenced *June 8, 1705*. And being drawn up necessarily some little Time before, it was sooner than the Market, and before the Price, for Wool of *Scotland*, of the Year 1705, could positively be known.

8. This Writer, it is to be noted, is a little obscure in his Manner of expressing himself concerning Wool being permitted * or prohibited to be exported, but gives Hints of *French Merchants* being used to come there, and buy it themselves, than at which Time, it never sold better. However, amidst all the Obscurities, and seeming Self-Contradictions of this Writer, on this Head, thus much appears plainly from him, and from what has been before noted, that Wool was allowed by Act of Parliament of *Scotland*, in the Year 1704, to be imported thither, and again exported thence; that much *English, Irish, and Scotch Wool* was actually exported thence in that Year, chiefly to *Holland* (by reason, I suppose, of the War with *France* †) and that Wool of the Growth of *Scotland*, was commonly sold that Year, at 9 or 10 *lib. Scots per Stone*, which was 30 and 33 *s. 4 d. English Money per Tod*, except that the *Scots Stone* was two Pounds more than the *English Stone* of Wool.

C H A P.

* See Chap. 71. §. 1. Note. *Scotish Statutes*.

† Not but it may be gathered from this Writer, that some Wool was sent directly from *Scotland*, or, however by *Scotch Merchants*, to *France*, by Means of *French Passes*. He says (p. 26.) ‘The *French King* refused *Passes* to all that brought not contraband Goods, such as, Lead, Wool or Butter;’ which (says he) takes our Money into *Ireland* to purchase it; and implies, that the same brought not back *French Money*, but *Commodities*.

C H A P. XCI.

Occurrences and Acts. 1705—7.

1. *TO proceed in the History of Affairs with SCOTLAND.* *History of*
 The Parliament, which met there, June 28, 1705, *2. Anne to*
 by Reason of many Members being absent, was ad-*the Union,*
 journed to July 3, when her Majesties Letter was read, p. 227.
 recommending *the Settlement of the Succession of the Crown*
in the Protestant Line, and a Treaty of Union. But the
 House resolved, before all other Affairs, to go upon the
 Regulation of Coin and Trade, and spent from the 6th,
 to the 17th, of July therein. At which Time, Duke
 Hamilton presented the following Resolve, *That the Par-*
liament would not proceed to the Nomination of a Successor,
till they had a previous Treaty with England, in Relation
to their Commerce, and other Concerns with that Nation ;
That, &c.

2. The next Sederunt, The Duke of Athol gave in Page 329.
 the following Protestation, ‘ *In regard, that by an Eng-*
 ‘ *lish Act of Parliament, made in the last Session thereof,*
 ‘ *intituled, (See 3, 4 Ann ^w c. 7.) The Subjects of this ^w Ch. 88.*
 ‘ *Kingdom are to be adjudged Aliens, &c. I do protest, §. 8.*
 ‘ *that no Act for a Treaty of Union, ought to pass in this*
 ‘ *House, unless a Clause be adjected thereto, for the Com-*
 ‘ *missioners not to depart the Kingdom, in order thereto, un-*
 ‘ *til the said Clause be repealed and rescinded.*’ This in
 the End was agreed to.

3. And on September 5, the Parliament read the first
 Time, An Act, discharging the Importation of all Mer-
 chandize, and other Commodities from *England*; an
 Act discharging the Importation of *English* or *Irish* Tan-
 ned Leather; an Act for taking off the Duty from
 Woolen and Linen Manufactory. They also read a first
 Time, an Act, discharging the victualling Ships of that
 Nation outward bound, with *Irish* and foreign Beef, or
 providing them with foreign small Beer.

4. On the 28th, The Act, prohibiting the Importa-
 tion of Commodities from *England*, was again read, and
 three Days after, the high Commissioner gave the Royal
 Assent to an Act, *naming publick Ministers for Scot-*
E 4
land,

land, &c. and some other Acts relating to Trade, and then adjourned the Parliament.

Page 342. 5. The Parliament of England met, October 25; and on November 23, the Lords went upon the *Scotch Affairs*, the Queen being present; and after a long Debate, resolved, ‘*That in order to come to an Union with the Kingdom of Scotland, the Act (3, 4 An. c. 7 *) pass’d the last Session of the preceding Parliament, intituled, An Act for the effectual securing the Kingdom of England from the apparent Dangers that may arise from several Acts lately passed in the Parliament of Scotland, should be repealed, except the Clause that empowers her Majesty to appoint Commissioners to treat of an Union with that Kingdom.*’ Ordered, the Judges to bring in a Bill for that Purpose, and that a Committee should sit thereon, Accordingly followed,

* Ch. 88,
§. 8.

6. *An Act * to repeal several Clauses in the Statute made in the Third and Fourth Years of her Majesties Reign, for securing the Kingdom of England from several Acts lately passed in Scotland.* 4 An. c. 3.

History of 7. Jan, 20, 1706. The Parliament of Scotland passed *Q. Anne* to an Act of Ratification of the Articles of Union agreed *the Union*, upon, between Commissioners for both Kingdoms, the P: 537: Summer before.

8. Jan. 28. The Queen acquainted the two Houses therewith; and on the 6th of *March* following, this Important Act, confirming the Union which had been thus treated, on both Sides, as it were, with Sword in Hand, had the Royal Assent, and was to commence from the first of *May*, 1707. (See 5 An. c. 8 †.)

9. An

* This Act recites the several Clauses of Prohibition, 3, 4 *Anne*, c. 7, and adds, that ‘*whereas since the making of the said Act, an Act hath passed in the Parliament of Scotland, for enabling her Majesty to appoint Commissioners, to treat with Commissioners for the Kingdom of England, of, and concerning an Union of the said Kingdoms of England and Scotland;*’ therefore was enacted a Repeal of the said recited Clauses.

† By the fourth Article, ‘*All the Subjects of the united Kingdom of Great-Britain, shall, from and after the Union, have full Freedom and Intercourse of Trade and Navigation, to, and from any Port or Place within the said*

Ch. 91. *Memoirs of Wool, &c.*

73

9. *An Act to repeal all the Laws, prohibiting the Importation of foreign Bone Lace made of Thread.* 5 An. c. 17 *.

10. *An Act for encouraging the dressing and dying of Woolen Cloths within this Kingdom, by laying a Duty upon Broad Cloth exported White.* 6 An. c. 8 †.

11. *An*

‘ said united Kingdom, and the Dominions and Places thereunto belonging : And that there be a Communication of all other Rights and Privileges, and Advantages, which do, or may belong to the Subjects of either Kingdom ; except where it is otherwise expressly agreed in the Articles.

N. B. A Book intitled, *A Tour through Great-Britain : By a Gentleman* (Ed. 1742. Tom. 4. p. 139.) gives for History, as follows.

‘ *Peebles*, the Country hereabouts is very hilly ; but those Hills are covered with Sheep. ‘ *They used formerly to export their Wool to France.* But by the Act of Union, the Exportation of it was prohibited upon the severest Penalties ; and to make the Gentlemen of the Southern Counties amends for this Loss, a great Sum of Money was at that Time granted them as an Equivalent, to encourage them to set the Poor on Work.

* *Reciting*, ‘ That it had been found by Experience, that some former Acts, for restraining and preventing the Importation of foreign Lace, had obitruacted the Exportation and vending of the Woolen Manufactures of *England*, in the *Spanish Low-Countries*, and other Places abroad ; and for Remedy thereof, repeals all those Acts, except with Regard to Lace, made in the Dominions of the *French King*, or of the *Duke of Anjou*.

† *Acknowledging* ‘ the Necessity, to the Woolen Manufacture of *England*, of exporting broad Cloths white, but, (for the Encouragement of Dressing and Dying in *England*,) imposing a Duty of 5 s. on every broad Cloth exported white.

And what is the Necessity alledged here, other than a plain Acknowledgment, that Foreigners want neither Art nor Materials for making Cloth ? For else, would it not be just as adviseable to make the most of Things, by prohibiting the Exportation of the Manufacture unfinish'd, as of the Material raw ? But the Prohibition of the latter, is grounded upon a Supposition, that the Materials of the Woolen Manufacture are such as other Nations neither have, nor cannot want, but, of Necessity, must be furnished from England. And

this

11. *An Act for the Importation of white Woollen Cloth.*
c. 9*.

12. *An*

7 See Chap. 31. §. 1. *this was exactly the Plea, heretofore, against the Exportation of undressed and white Cloths, as not then, but since, of raw Wool (for the Exportation of raw Wool was not then prohibited); if this Supposition then is given up for false, as hereby it plainly is, and as needs it must be; and if it be only urged (which is very true) how much better it is to export Wool manufactured, than raw; I answer, that for the very same Reasons, it is also better, in a Degree, to export Cloths dressed, and dyed, than rough and white. Yet in this latter Case, we see, it has been judged good Policy, to make only the Difference of a small Duty, between the one and the other; and that, for the Encouragement of Dressing and Dying. By Parity of Reason therefore, as we are not solely possessed of the Material, Wool, and therefore can have no Monopoly of the Manufacture; so, rather than creating, as we do, a Monopoly against the Wool-Grower, would it not be equal good Policy, to prefer a Duty on Wool exported, to an absolute Prohibition in that Case; only making the Duty larger, in Proportion to the Difference of the two Cases, so as to encourage the Manufacture, rather than the Exportation of Wool? If it be said, that this Permission for undressed, and white Cloths, together with the Prohibition on raw Wools, are equally calculated to promote Manufacture, I answer, that this latter Policy, at the best, treats the Grower of Wool, as if his Interest in the Community was nothing, and his Property of no Consideration to himself, but to others only.*

In short, as if the *Wool Growers Money* did not come to Market like other Peoples.

* c. 3. *This Act recites: That an Act had passed 14, 15 Hen. VIII. against exporting any Cloths or Worstedes before the same be thorn, dyed, coloured, and calandred. But that in 6 Eliz. a Patent was granted to the Ham-borough Company for ever, with Liberty to export 30,000 Cloths, though not wrought or dressed; 25,000 whereof, to be above the Value of 3, and under the Value of 6l. per Cloth, and the other 5000 to be above the Value of 4l. per Cloth. And that 28 Car. II. another Patent was granted to Sir James Hay, and Sir Peter Appley, Knights, in Trust for the Countess of Portland, for the Term of 21 Years, without Limitation of Price and Number, with Power to compound with the Exporter for Licence to export the same. Since the Expiration of which Patent, the Officers of the Customs had put a Stop to*

12. *An Act for the better ascertaining the Lengths and Breadths of Woolen Cloths, made in the County of York.*
7 An. c. 13 †.

CHAP.

‘ to the Exportation of all white Cloths ; and a Doubt had
‘ arisen, whether the same might be exported. And the
‘ same being adjudged to be for the Benefit of the Manu-
‘ facture, it was therefore enacted, that *all* white Woolen
‘ Cloths whatsoever, might be exported by any Person or
‘ Persons.

† *Reciting*, ‘ divers Abuses and Deceits in the Manu-
‘ facture of Woolen Cloths in the County of *York*,’ and
therefore ordaining some Regulations. It prescribes the
Length and Breadth of broad Cloths to be made in *York-*
shire ; inflicts a Punishment on Clothiers exposing Cloth,
otherwise made, to Sale ; directs the Fullers to fix a Seal
of Lead on each Cloth, expressing its Length and Breadth ;
who upon Neglect of their Duty, are to forfeit twenty
Shillings for each Offence ; one half to the Informer, the
other to the Poor of the Parish.

I may here insert, tho’ somewhat out of its Place, as to
Order of Time, the following *Act for regulating, improving,*
and encouraging the Woolen Manufacture of mixed or Medley
broad Cloth, and for the better Payment of the Poor employed
in them. 10 Ann. c. 16 *.

* This Act recites ill Practices in the manner of making
these Cloths, and in the Method of paying the poor Workers,
viz. by Goods of several Kinds, instead of Money. And
therefore for Remedy ordains, ‘ That Medley broad Cloths
‘ be measured at the Fulling Mill by the Master, who shall
‘ be upon Oath, and affix a Seal to each Cloth, denoting
‘ its Length, Breadth, &c ; and that Clothiers shall pay
‘ their Workmen in Money, upon Pain of forfeiting twenty
‘ Shillings ; one half to the Informer, the other to the Poor.’
This Act not to extend to Cloth made in *Yorkshire*, nor to
invalidate, 7 Ann. c. 13 †. See 1 Geo. c. 15, for making
this Act more effectual .

§. 12.

Ch. 110.
§. 3.

C H A P. XCII.

Memoirs of the Dutch Trade, written (as appears in the Body of the Work) about the Year 1706, or 1707, by Mr. Huet, Bishop of Auranches, Author of The History of the Commerce and Navigation of the Ancients. Done from the French. London: Printed and sold by T. Warner, in Pater-noster-row.

The Author's Preface.

1. **S**OME Persons of Honour and Distinction, whom I ought by no means to disoblige, having engaged me to write something upon Trade, which might give them a general Idea of it, as it regard Politicks: I believed nothing would better answer that End, than to give them a true Notion of the Trade of the *Dutch*; which has diffused itself over all Parts of the habitable World.

2. Besides particular Considerations in relation to the present State of *Europe*, there are yet others more general, which ought to excite all Princes and their Ministers, and all those who have any Share in Government, to know thoroughly the Nature of Commerce, and the Maxims which are necessary to its being well carried on and managed, since (as *Boccalin* very well observes) Agriculture * and Commerce are the Breasts that suckle and nourish

* By *Agriculture* must be understood here, what we mean by the *Landed Interest*, which some perversely enough treat, in one View, as a *Milch Beast* that cannot fail, in another, as a *dry Nurse*, fit only to be fed with the Crumbs that fall from the rich Merchants Tables. But if either the Generality of the Land-holders gave a proper Attention to their own Interest, in their proper Places, or if the Generality

nourish the State; Truths which ought to be engraven in Letters of Gold in all the Apartments of Kings, Princes, and Statesmen.

3. Commerce, the *Dutch* have carried to the highest Pitch, as may be seen in the following Memoirs, which, I desire those, who will give themselves the Trouble to read, would not think to be the simple Speculation of a Man of Letters, but the true Sentiments of the most able Merchants of *Holland*, &c. having had the Happiness to converse with Persons of the greatest Abilities in this Way, in several Places where I have been. Besides, I have spared no Pains or Costs to have good Memoirs; and the following Treatise will be a sufficient Proof of what I say. These various and rare Truths therefore, which I have with much Pains and Expence, acquired the Knowledge of, gave me Courage to put them into Writing, and to treat of a Subject so little understood.

4. *Cæsar* observes in his Commentaries, that the People of the Low Countries, were very laborious and industrious, both for Invention and Imitation. These People always were, and are to this very Day the same. It is said, the *Flemings* were the first of the Northern People, that made all Sorts of Woolen and Linen Cloths; their Country yielding the finest Flax in the World, and *England* producing the most * excellent and best of Wool.

5. The Woolen and Linen Trade, which, at first, began in *France* and *Germany*, very much increased for three Centuries, (from about the Year 960,) during all which Time, nothing was more flourishing than the Trade of *Flanders*.

6. In 1301, A Sedition at *Ghent*, and a War, drove several of the Workmen to *Tillemont* and *Louvain*, whence they spread themselves into several Parts of *Brabant*. After-

wards, lity of Traders knew what was most for their own Advantage, this would not be the Case; because, as Sir *Josiah Child* has truly said, *it cannot be ill with Land, but Trade must feel it.* (See P. S.) more on this Head.

* Good Wool, he might have truly said, in great Plenty, but far from being the most excellent and best, especially, if we are to judge by the best Price of *English Wool* in *England*, and that of some others at *Amsterdam*, and elsewhere (*Spanish* for Example) even of the worst and lowest Sort (See Ch. 171, 172.)

terwards, at *Louvain* particularly, the Cloth Workers, in an Insurrection, having killed several Magistrates, to escape Punishment, fled into *England*, others to *Holland* †.

7. Those who got into *England*, gave the *English* the first * Insight into Cloth Making, and shewed them how to work their own Wool, to the great Detriment of the Trade of the Low Countries; for it is certain, that to the Year 1404, and even since, the *English* sold their Wool to the *Flemings*, and took their Cloth in Payment †.

8. Not only the Cloth Workers of *Brabant* went into *Holland*, but a great many from *Flanders* did the same, and settled chiefly at *Leyden*, where the Art of Cloth Working hath continued ever since to shine out in its full Lustre.

In

De Witt's
Maxims,
&c.

Chap. 11.

† ' The *Flemings* were the first (in the Northern Parts of Europe) that became Traders in Manufactures, 'till the many prejudicial or hurtful Laws of the *Halls*, which at first were framed, on the Pretence of preventing Deceit, and the debasing of Commodities, but were in Truth, intended to fix those Manufactures to the Cities. — But at last, having by Force, which is ever prejudicial to Traffick, driven much of this Weaving Trade out of the Cities, into Villages, the Wars between *France* and *Flanders*, drove it back again from the Villages, to *Tienen* and *Louvain*, in *Brabant*. Notwithstanding which, the *Brabanters* being nothing more prudent, did, by the same Means, the Laws of *Halls*, &c. occasion Tumults, which issued in murdering the Magistrates successively, from the Year 1301, at *Ghent*, *Bruges*, *Ipres*, *Louvain*, whence Offenders fled, several to *England*, many to *Holland*.

* See this to be a Mistake. Chap. 4. §. 16. See also Chap. 5. §. 1, Note.

† It is certain, that to this Time, and much longer, the *English* sold Wool to the *Flemings* and other Foreigners; and it is equally certain, that long before this, and for more than two Centuries following, they exported, not only Wool, but Cloth and other Drapery; notwithstanding that they did also import some foreign Cloths, at least to the 4th of *Edw.* IV. (See Chap. 5. §. 23. Chap. 6, 7. §. 6. Chap. 8. §. 20, 24, 26.) See also Chap. 34. §. 2. Chap. 10. §. 3. Chap. 12. §. 6.

9. In the Year 1487, The Trade was, in a great Measure, transferred from *Bruges* to *Antwerp*, and *Amsterdam*; but the greatest Share fell to *Antwerp*; and every Thing after seemed to contribute to the Increase of its Commerce. But Trade, which has not any Enemy so mortal as Constraint, changed its Residence, as soon as the *Spaniards* began to deprive the seventeen Provinces of their Privileges; the Fishery removed to *Holland*, and the Manufactures of *Flanders* into other Countries. See §. 10. Note.

10. One third Part of the Workmen and Merchants, who wrought and dealt in Silks, Damasks, Taffeties, and Stockins, &c. went to settle in *England*, because none in that Country knew, at that Time, to work in those Manufactures*. A great many went to *Leyden*.

11. It is astonishing to think, that the Merchants of *Antwerp*, in leaving a Place the most convenient in the World for Trade, should make Choice of one, seeming the most improper, in all *Europe*. One would have rather thought, that the Neighbourhood of *England*, whose Situation and Harbours are so admirably fitted for Trade, might have invited them thither. Those Merchants who were of the reformed Religion, would have had a greater Inclination to settle there, than in any other Place, in hopes, not only to live more at quiet, but also on Account of the Situation, which is very advantageous for trading with all *Europe*. But they wanted to be in a Country, where Foreigners were not obliged to pay such Customs and other Taxes, which the native *English* were free from; for in *England*, it seems, at that Time, Foreigners, and all their Posterity, paid double what the Natives did; besides, Foreigners were excluded all Companies, or Societies, of Trade. So that none were allowed to work, either as Partners or Masters, unless at such Trades as the Natives were unacquainted with. So that none went thither, but such as wrought in Serges, Damasks, Stockins, &c.

12. Most of these, and the like Inconveniences, they were also sure to meet with in the *Hanse Towns*, which partly

* ' Because that Trade was then new to the *English*, and *De Witt*.
 ' therefore under no *Halls* nor *Guilds*. But there were still Ch. 11.
 ' a great Number of Traders in Manufactures, that re-
 ' mained in *Flanders* and *Brabant*.

partly was the Cause that almost the whole Trade of *Antwerp*, came to be established in the Towns of *Holland*, which were free from all those Obstacles. The Situation of these neighbouring Towns, and several other Considerations, contributed very much to draw thither, especially to *Amsterdam*, all this vast and profitable Trade.

13. After the Union of the seven Provinces, and the World saw this new Republick defend itself with Success against *Spain*, under the Conduct of the Prince of *Orange*, all those who hated the *Spanish* Government, retired thither, as to an *Ashylum*, from its Rigour and Severity.

14. The Persecutions which *Spain* renewed with too great Severity in several Places, against those who had embraced the new Opinions, peopled the *United Provinces* with a World of excellent *Artisans*, who set up there several new Manufactures, and brought those they had already there to great Perfection. The civil Wars that lasted so long in *France*, then in *Germany*, and last of all in *England*, augmented considerably the Inhabitants of the *United Provinces*. And the Wars which broke out in the Year 1634, in the *Low Countries*, between *France* and *Spain*, made likewise great Numbers of Merchants and Workmen come into *Holland* from the richest Villages of *Flanders* and *Brabant*, and the Country beyond the *Maese*. All this caused not only the Towns of *Holland* to grow extraordinary populous, but doubly increased their Trade, as having a prodigious Vent for almost all Sorts of their Manufactures, and other Commodities, during the Continuance of that War. But after all, nothing has increased the Inhabitants of *Holland* and their Manufactures, so much as the *French* Protestants, who were almost all of them Merchants, or *Artisans*, and came thither about twenty or thirty Years ago.

P. S. to §. 2. Note. *A Dissertation on Agriculture and Commerce, the mixed and mutual Interests of LAND and TRADE.*

15. Sir JOSIAH CHILD has compared Land and Trade to Twins, and has said; it is vulgarly conceived of Twins, but

but of Land and Trade, may be affirmed most truly, 'that
' they must wax and wane together.'

16. But certain Moderns tell us, *the one is a vulgar Conceit, like the other; for* 'the Landed Interest
' will sink, as that of Trade rises.' So then, Land and Trade, instead of being (as commonly they have been accounted) in the same, are, (it seems) in opposite Scales. To this Effect, we have read very lately. 'The Landed * Gen. Rev;
' Interest has long been the Pride of the ENGLISH Sub- Post Sept.
' ject, but by the Increase of TRADE, has been gradu- 20, 1746.
' ally sinking; insomuch, that a RICH JEW will, in
' Time, perhaps, be of MORE IMPORTANCE than
' HALF A DOZEN REPRESENTATIVES OF COUNTIES.' And if so, why not, in Time (say I) than half a Dozen Counties; and so, in Course, HALF A DOZEN JEWS, than the WHOLE KINGDOM?

17. And thus much is true, that he who carries the Purse, has generally the casting Vote in the Company. The Moneyed Interest have always been but too apt to Lord it over their Brethren, of the Landed; witness the Merchants of the Staple, heretofore, and, after them, the Merchants Adventurers. (See Ch. 11. §. 25. Note. Ch. 12. §. 16. Ch. 15. §. 33. Ch. 36. §. 5. Note. Ch. 39. §. 2. Note.)

18. But notwithstanding the Indulgence due to Trade, and the natural Sway that Money bears in all human Interchange, it is possible for a Community, in this Sense, to Judaize, or rather, to be Judaized too much, if I may so use the Word. For what if the Public has Occasion to borrow Money? The Landed Part, as the chief Stake, both for securing the Principal, and paying the Interest, may degrade itself unnecessarily, by truckling to Jews and Jewish Merchants and Money Brokers, more than is requisite from a Landed People, under a Landed Legislature; and more than is any Way convenient; it being an allowed Possibility, for particular Persons to thrive, by Means that are hurtful, nay ruinous, to the PUBLIC.

19. And with regard to the TRADE of this Kingdom particularly, Sir Josiah Child has laid it down for a Rule, (which notwithstanding what we have seen above, (§. 16.) ' Ch. 69.
' I think is a very true one.) ' That all such domestick § 3.
' or foreign Trade, as does not in the Result and Con-
' sequences thereof, increase the Value of our English
VOL. II. F Lands,

‘ Lands, (the good Plight whereof is the main Basis of our Wealth, Freedom, and Safety) ought not only to be discouraged, but rejected.’

Ch. 65.
§: 10.

20. It is (*I confess*) difficult, and somewhat invidious, to make Comparisons, as between the Members of the natural Body, so, of the Body Politic. But, if from the Interferings of narrow selfish Views, there is a Necessity of so doing; and if we will consider the Public or Community, under the Figure of a Plant or Tree, the Land (as already observed) must be acknowledged to be as the Root and Stem of that Tree: Or, if we speak thereof, as a Building or Fabric, it is the Foundation and chief Corner Stone.

To illustrate the Truth of this, take what follows, from Daniel De Foe; which, whether real, or (as I suppose it) only Ideal, is no less to the Purpose, since it contains, tho’ perhaps, not the most accurate, yet no very unnatural Account of the constituent Parts of a mixed Society, of a Landed and Trading Interest; describing the Steps and Degrees, by which it rises, and particularly, the Basis or Foundation whereon it stands.

Plan of
Commerce.
By Daniel
De Foe,
p. 20, &c.

‘ I once (*says he*) saw a Calculation of Trade, for the planting a new Town in the South Parts of England; where, for the Encouragement of People to come and settle, the Lords of the Manors (for the Place lay in three Manors) agreed to give a certain Quantity of Lands to fifty Farmers, who would undertake to bring each two hundred Pounds Stock with them, and settle there.

‘ To every such Farmer they allotted two hundred Acres of good Land, Rent free, for twenty Years; and if the Farmer brought three hundred Pounds Stock, he had three hundred Acres. Besides the Land, the said Lords agreed to find Timber, and all other Materials, for the building to every Farmer, and out of their own Pockets to build to each Farmer, a House and Barn, and Stables. And thus, with other Encouragements, fifty Families of substantial Farmers were brought to live in a Kind of Circle within themselves, with every one a good Farm to manage, and sufficient Quantity of Land, Rent free. The Land was good in itself, tho’ never cultivated before. So that being cleared and inclosed, and gradually ploughed, or improved, it soon returned them a profitable Increase.

‘ The

‘ The Land was so laid out in a large Circle, that all the Farm Houses being built at the Extremities of the respective Farms, toward the Center, left a handsome large square Piece of Land, which the Lords reserved for the building of a Town; and as the Farm Houses were so regularly placed, as to front all inwards, they left ten Spaces, like Streets, before their Doors, of which five of the Farm Houses, with Out-Houses, made one Side; and the others remained, to build into a Street, as Occasion should present.

‘ At the same Time, they published, that whoever would come and build on that vacant Ground, should have a certain proportioned Measure of Land allowed him, according to the Size of the House he would build; should have Timber given him *gratis*, out of the Woods belonging to the Estate, sufficient for his Building, and to every House, Land also added for a Garden and Orchard; no Rent to be paid for ten Years, and then, a moderate Rent for twenty Years more; and then a certain Rent (not at last immoderate) for the Time to come.

‘ When the Farmers were settled (for there is the Substance and Reason of the Thing, and in this, it is exactly to my Purpose) immediately comes a Butcher, and he runs up a little Shed for the present, till he could build a House; and sets up a Shop, to kill and sell Meat for the Farmers.

‘ *N. B.* As these Farmers had every one two hundred Pounds Stock to begin with, so they are supposed to be all Men of Families, that had Wives and Children; and every one had, at least, one or two, and some, three Servants.

‘ Nor could one Butcher be sufficient to furnish Meat to fifty Families; but they were obliged to send to neighbouring Towns for Provisions, till, the first Butcher having Encouragement, two or three more came afterwards, and set up also.

‘ After the Example of the Butcher, in the next Place came a Baker; and he erects an Oven, to supply them with Bread.

‘ Fifty Families of Farmers must necessarily find Work for a Smith or Farrier, to shoe the Horses, and at least two Wheelwrights, to make and repair their

‘ Carts, Waggon, Plows, Harrows, &c.; and these, with the necessary Iron Work for so much Building; called in a couple of Blacksmiths, whereof one, being a Man of Substance, made himself a Kind of Ironmonger, laying in a Stock of all Sorts of wrought Iron and Brass for Building and Furniture, which, on such an Occasion, they could not be without.

‘ This Collection of Tradesmen naturally required a Shoemaker or two to set up, who soon found Trade enough, to supply the growing Number of People with Shoes and Boots; and likewise a good honest Country Cobbler or two, could not fail of Employment, to repair them; and (to add the other Trades working in Leather) they could not be without a Collar-maker or two, for Harness, Pannels, Saddles, and all the necessary Things belonging to a Team.

‘ Add to these a Turner, an Earthen Ware-seller, a Glover, a Rope-maker, three or four Barbers (perhaps a Midwife) and several such Trades as the Nature of Things required.

‘ But, to go back to the Building Part, three Master Carpenters would be the least that could be employed, in building Houses, and these would require six Pair of Sawyers at least, with four Journeymen, that is to say, Workmen; two or three Bricklayers, with their Servants and Labourers, and perhaps hand by, a Brick and Tile-maker.

‘ To supply these, one of the Carpenters, a Man of Substance, builds himself a Windmill, and another builds a second; and they both find Work enough (as the Town increased) to keep them constantly employed.

‘ The Town going thus forward, and standing in the great Post Road, comes an honest Victualler, and he sets up an Alehouse; and soon after, he is followed by five or six more. As the first, increasing in Stock fees room for it, he enlarges the Building, and makes his little Alehouse out into a good Inn; and a season follows, and then a third; and in Process of Time the Number of Publick Houses increase to eleven or twelve in all; whereof, as above, three are very hand some Inns, and perhaps sell Wine as well as strong Drink.

By this Time, the Lords of the Manors begin to think it proper to build their new Tenants a Church; which they lay out a handsome Piece of Ground in the Center of the Town, and a large burying ground added to it; and, obtaining a Licence from the Bishop, they * consecrate the Building; and, being joint Patrons, present in Turn, getting a Law to set it into a Parish, and to ascertain the Tythe and maintenance of the Incumbent, as in like Cases.

Hitherto, Nature acted it all; but this Part indeed, the Piety of the Partrons supplies; our Business is (in this) to observe the ordinary Course of Things; the Concurrence of Tradesmen follow the Concurrence of People; as naturally as Warmth attends the Approach of the Sun; the Settlement of the Farmers, gives a Summons to the Tradesmen that supply them with Necessaries, and lets them know that there they may find Business and Employment. The Necessity of Meat and Drink, brings the Butcher, Baker, and Victualler to settle with them, as naturally as Suters follow an Army.

But to proceed, Fame spreads the News of a Town newly erected, and a Number of Families brought together. A Grocer goes to see if there is no room for him; and finding no Supplies of his Kind, he takes a Piece of Ground in one of the principal Streets, and marks himself out a Place for his House; but first, before, runs up a Booth or Shed, stores it with Goods, and opens a Shop; and two or three Chandlers do the same in remoter Parts, buying their Goods by Haps of him.

An Apothecary does the like next Door to him, and a Mercer next to him; then a Haberdasher of Hats, a Draper, and a Milliner; and thus the Town is invited, and furnished by Degrees, with all Sorts of necessary People and Things; 'till after some Time,

The Lords of the Manors, to carry on their Improvements, get a Patent for a Market once a Week, and fair perhaps, twice a Year, or oftener, as there is occasion.

F 3

‘ In

As Mr. De Foe was not of the established Church, but a Dissenter, 'tis the less to be wondered at, that he mistakes the Terms in this Particular.

‘ In these advanced Circumstances, other Trades
 ‘ in ; as 1. more Alehouses, 2. a common Brew
 ‘ 3. a Cooper for Casks of all Sorts ; a Pewterer,
 ‘ or three Lawyers (or Attornies rather) for dr
 ‘ ing Writings, making Bonds, Bargains and Ag
 ‘ ments, between Man and Man ; and one of these
 ‘ Time, gets himself made a Justice of the Peace ;
 ‘ so there is an immediate Magistrate among them.

‘ In the mean Time, other Trades fill up the Str
 ‘ a Malthouse, perhaps two or three, are erected,
 ‘ the Inhabitants may brew their own Beer, if
 ‘ please ; a Surgeon, in Case of Disafter, for by
 ‘ Time the Town begins to grow populous.

‘ The good Women also being diligent and
 ‘ Housewives, they Spin, and in Consequence of
 ‘ there must be a Linen Weaver, and a Woolen V
 ‘ ver, a Flax and Hemp Dresser, and, in a w
 ‘ whatever depends upon their Thrift.

‘ Thus far, the Nature and Consequence of Th
 ‘ agree with what is advanced above : Thus Towns
 ‘ Families, nay, Nations and Countries, are pla
 ‘ and peopled, and made flourishing and populous
 ‘ their Commerce.

‘ Let us now cast up the Account ; and, accor
 ‘ to ancient Custom, number the People ; the List
 ‘ the Poll, will stand thus :

‘ Fifty Farmers with their Wives, and two
 ‘ Children each, one with another, which I
 ‘ take to be the least that can be supposed —
 ‘ Two Men Servants, and one Maid Servant,
 ‘ to each Farmer, — — — — —
 ‘ The several Families of Tradesmen, necessarily
 ‘ brought together, on such an Occasion, I
 ‘ cast up to be 143 Families, at five to each
 ‘ House, — — — — —
 ‘ Add to these, hired Servants, which would fall
 ‘ in from other Countries, Nurses, Midwives,
 ‘ Hostlers, Apprentices, &c. in all — —

‘ Here are fifty Farmers, who, with their Servants, make up but 350 People in all, but necessarily draw one Thousand and Fifty People after them. And wherever fifty Farmers were thus to settle, I INSIST, that, at least, one Thousand People must, of Course, throng to them, and live about them.’

22. However *that may be, as to the exact Numbers of the one, and the other; yet hence we plainly see, how great a Share of what is commonly understood by the Trading Interest, does depend absolutely upon the Landed. And this Share, lightly spoke of as it often is, we shall hereafter* ^{Ch. 100.} *see accounted to make more than nineteen Parts in twenty* ^{§. 10.} *of the whole Trade of the Kingdom.*

23. To make this *Affair yet plainer, viz. the Dependance of the TRADING, on the LANDED INTEREST, I subjoin to what DE FOR has said, That if the supposed adjacent Farmers to his supposed Market or Trading Town, are by any Means, or to any Degree, drove from their Settlements, their Lands laid Waste, and left uncultivated, or their Intercourse any Way obstructed or diverted; by the same Means and Degrees, will such supposed Market, or Trading Town, depopulate and go to Ruin.*

24. If it be said (in Favour of Trade) that, after this, suppose a Colony of Manufacturers and Merchants, to repair to such Place, and they will rebuild the Town, and restore the neighbouring Lands to their former Intercourse, Culture, and Fertility. To this, I answer, In some Cases that may be impossible, as, suppose, that of Inundation, or of the Lands, and Town, being subjected to different Powers (like, for Instance, Spain and Gibraltar.)—But, in all Cases, the Supposition is not according to Nature. For no Manufacturers, (in the common Acceptation of that Word,) will, none indeed can form a Settlement in any Place, where the adjacent Country is not naturally fit, and also previously disposed, to sustain them with a very great Share of their Provisions. The Reason is, they can work but a very little while, before they will have occasion to eat; consequently, they must have their principal Supplies of Food always at hand.

25. Thus we see that Manufacturers (commonly so called) cannot precede Farmers and Grasers; and if not Manufacturers, much less, Merchants; who, under such Circumstances,

circumstances, could have nothing to Export, no Vent for Imports, consequently, no Traffic whatsoever.

26. *This proves that the Landholders have really the first Place in Society, the Manufacturers, the next; last of all, come the Merchants.*

27. *It is not indeed to be denied, that they are ALL of mutual Use and Benefit, and that the former, Land, is capable of receiving vast Improvements from the two latter, Manufacture and Merchandize. — But at the same Time, it is to be remembered, that those Two owe their Being, and so, in Proportion, their Well-Being, to the other, Land. — And, therefore, methinks, it is impossible for that to be the true Interest of a Kingdom, or even of Trade itself, which lessens the Landed Interest.*

28. *Trade, indeed, is a noble Superstructure; but LAND is the Foundation of it; and in every growing Superstructure, it is not barely good Policy, but it is essentially necessary, to widen and strengthen, not to narrow and sap the Foundation. If Trade and Manufacture are, as no doubt they are, convenient and helpful to Agriculture, or the Landed Interest, yet Agriculture is necessary to them both. And there is surely some Difference between Convenience and Necessity.*

29. *And tho' it may be said, that by carrying our Speculations in this Kind a little further back, it will appear, that Agriculture requiring Instruments, and in order to these, Artisans, &c.; this proves the Necessity to be, in a great Measure, reciprocal. Yet (besides that the Artisan must be beholden to the Lord of the Soil for the Primum, or Materials; which gives him still the Priority) we are not here contending so much for that, as for a Parity and Reciprocation of Interests; and more especially maintaining, that however particular Traders may, and sometimes do, and are almost constantly attempting it, yet Trade, in its best and most extensive Sense, cannot flourish at the Expence of the Landed Interest: That whatever Truth, in Fact, there may be, as to what hath been asserted (§. 16.) it is not the genuine Fruits of a well regulated Trade, for the Landed Interest to sink, in Proportion, as Trade increases.*

30. *Manufacture, considered as the Employment and Maintenance of the Poor, is justly a favourite Topic. — But then it should be considered, that Agriculture, in that*
Sense,

Sense, is no less a Manufacture, than Spinning and Weaving, &c. Boccacine therefore, has not given the Preference to the one or the other; but says equally of Agriculture and Commerce, that they are the Breasts that suckle and nourish the State. And, I think, it may be said of Agriculture, and foreign Trade, that they are the two Extrems of that Commerce, that Circulation of Blood and Spirits, which gives Life and Strength to every Nation or People. And upon their being duly and equally, not partially, cherished and regulated, depends the Prosperity both of the whole, and of by much the major Part of Individuals. These being secured, all that is intermediate, and valuable, will succeed in Course. But if either be neglected or oppressed, however some Particular Interests may be Gainers thereby, the Community will suffer, at least, in Proportion.

31. *But the Land is indisputably the Foundation and Ground-work of Society; yet so great are the Conveniencies and Improvements from Manufacture and Trade, that the former is frequently esteemed, in respect of the two latter, but as Clay in the Hands of the Potter; and so much is said to depend upon them, that they cannot be too well protected, nor indulged to Excess: And this is granted—provided that particular Incroachments and Usurpations, are not mistaken for general Protection and Indulgence.*

32. *And therefore, because it is not uncommon, for particular Persons, under the Colour of promoting Trade and Manufacture, to attempt the serving of only By-Ends and Interests, at the Expence of the Community, the Business is to be able to distinguish rightly in all Cases of this Nature.*

33. *To that End, (abstracting from all Monopoly ², ² Ch. 69. a Word of too hateful a Signification, for any one to vindicate, as such, and which therefore I shall not here stand particularly to condemn) the proper Test, as I take it, is, in regard to any Branch of foreign Trade, to see that it does not, upon the whole, interfere with, i. e. lessen what is domestic, and so make the Income, and consequently the Expence of the Kingdom less, upon the whole: In all Pretences respecting Manufacture, by which is to be understood, the Employment and Maintenance of the Poor, to be sure that the Employment and Maintenance of the Poor is thereby increased, and not rather diminished.*

I shall

- I shall endeavour to explain myself on these two Heads,
 by an Example to each. 1. When Dr. Davenant¹, and
¹ Ch. 79, 81. others, pleaded for the home Use of East India Silks
 and Callicoets, &c. in Favour to the East India Com-
 pany, and to foreign Trade; the Parliament, after some
 Time, wisely excluded the same, because of their interfering
 with what was more generally beneficial to the Nation,
 the home Consumption of home Manufacture. 2. When
² Ch. 45. Mr. Munn^m mentioned it as a great Advantage to
 the Woolen Manufacture and Trade of England;
 because, in Consequence of an Act, then lately passed,
 forbidding the Exportation of Wool, that Commodity
 had fallen 25 per Cent. or more: He was not able to offer
 any PROOF, either of an Increase of the English Woolen
 Manufacture, or of the Woolen Exportation Trade from
 England; while by his own Confession, that part of the
 Landed Interest, the Grower of Wool, had just so much
 less to expend in Cloaths, and other Necessaries of Life; in
 short, on home Labour, and other home Produce, or im-
 ported Merchandize. And such home Trade being ac-
² Ch. 100. counted to the foreign, as more than nineteen to oneⁿ;
 §. 10. and a great part of such home Trade consisting in Manu-
 facture, i. e. Hand Labour; it follows, that by intrench-
 ing upon the Landed Interest (which is retrenching the
 Income and Expences of the Nation) Manufacture, or
 Hand Labour, in other Words, the Employment and
 Maintenance of the Poor cannot be increased. Hence I
 conclude, that whoever, under the Colour of giving a Spring
 to TRADE, aims at lopping the Profits of the LANDHOLDER,
 is either ignorant, or regardless, of the TRUE SPRINGS
 OF TRADE. He either does not wish the Interest of his
 Country, or does not understand it.

C H A P. XCIII.

*Memoirs of the Dutch Trade: By Mr. Huet.
Of the Origin and Causes of the vast Trade
of Holland.*

1. **I**T is certain, that some Manufactures were set up in several Places of *Holland*, even while the *Hanse Towns* commanded all the Trade and Navigation of *Europe*.

2. The Truce of twelve Years being concluded in the Beginning of the Year 1609, between the *Spaniards* and the United Provinces, the *States General* omitted nothing all that Time to increase their Trade, where it was already established, or to establish it where they never had established it before.

3. In the Year 1612, the Grand Signior allowed the *Dutch* a free Trade throughout all his Dominions. This Treaty of Alliance with the *Turks*, gave a free and favourable Access to their Ships all over the *Mediterranean*. About that Time, the King of *Morocco*, and the Emperor of *Japan*, permitted them also to trade in all their Dominions; since which, this Republick might boast of having extended her Commerce over all Parts of the World, except *China*.

4. The *United Provinces* having obtained of the *Spaniards*, very great Advantages for their Commerce, at the Peace of *Munster*, which was concluded in the Year 1648, they pushed it on with the utmost Vigour, during that Calm, their Republick enjoyed, and got together immense Riches, which put them into a Condition to support the War which they had with *England* and *France*, in the Year 1672.

C H A P. XCIV.

*Memoirs of the Dutch Trade : By Mr. Huet.
Of the Manufactures and Trade of the
United Provinces.*

- Page 23. 1. **T**HE Herring Fishery is the greatest Trade, and
best Gold Mine belonging to the *United Pro-*
Page 26. *vinces*. Their Manufactures employ as many People as
their Fishery.
- Page 27. 2. I do not pretend to give an exact Account of them
all, shall only take Notice of some of the most consider-
able. Though there are Manufactures in several Places,
yet they flourish most in the Towns of *Amsterdam, Ley-*
den, and Harlem. But *Amsterdam* for Number, far
exceeds the other two.
- Page 28. 3. In this last Town, they make Cloths, Camblets,
and all Sorts of Woolen and Hair Stuffs, &c. But the
Town of *Leyden*, without Dispute, is preferable to *all*
others, for all Sorts of Woolen Manufactures, especially
the finest Sorts, as Serges, Camblets, and the like. They
tell you, that these Manufactures, after the Year 1400,
began to grow in some Esteem, and the Workmen of
Ipres that fled from their own Country, settled them-
selves there. But be that as it will, every Body agrees,
they had not then that Esteem, till after the Persecu-
tions for Religion began, which effectually drove great
Numbers of Workmen from the Provinces of *Flanders,*
Hainault, and Artois, &c.
4. They make also good Woolen Stuffs at *Harlem*,
but they are much inferior to those of *Leyden*, which lat-
ter may, undoubtedly, pass for the best in *Europe* in their
Kind.
- Page 37. 5. The *Dutch* have their Wool from *Spain* and *Eng-*
land, Germany, Poland, and the *Levant*, that Sort of
Wool called *Vigouque* from *Peru*, and that of *Coromania*
from *Persia*.
- Page 40. 6. The *Dutch* import to *Muscovy*, Linen and Woolen
Stuffs, &c. have a greater Trade to *Norway*, a Part of
the King of *Denmark's* Dominions, than all other Na-
tions

tions put together; and carry usually thither Spices, Drapery, &c. They furnish *Sweden* with the same Com- Page 43.
modities as they do *Denmark*, and much about the same Quantity, viz. Spices and Druggs, Silk and Woolen Stuffs, &c.

7. *Pomerania* abounds in great Quantities of Corn, Cat- Page 44.
tle, Wool, &c. *Silesia* in Wool and Woolen Cloths, &c. The *Dutch* import from *Pomerania*, vast Quantities of Page 45.
coarse Wool. They bring to *Königsburgh* in *Ducal* Page 46.
Prussia Cloths, &c.

8. As the *Poles* are all Strangers to Trade, and much Page 47.
more to Manufactures; so they are obliged to make use of Strangers, the *Dutch* especially. They are generally supplied from abroad with great Quantities of Cloth, &c.; which Commodities they truck for Wool, &c.

9. In *Moscow* and *Poland*, there is a vast Consuming- Page 51.
tion of Cloth and Woolen Stuffs, of the *Dutch* and *Eng-
lish* Manufactures. But these Stuffs and Cloths must be of all Sorts, Qualities and Colours.

10. The *Dutch* deal also in vast Quantities of Wool, Page 59.
which they transport from all Parts of the North, as well from *Poland*, *Prussia*, and *Pomerania*, as from *Denmark*, *Holstein*, *Mecklenburgh*, *Silesia*, *Saxony*, *Brandenburgh*, and the other Countries of the *lower Germany*.

11. The *Elbe* takes its Source in *Bohemia*, and after having traversed that Kingdom, and Electorate of *Saxony*, *Brandenburgh*, and *Hanover*, falls into the Ocean about 20 Leagues below *Hamburg*. In which City (the most rich and flourishing in all *Germany* for Trade) the *Dutch* secure to themselves that of the *Elbe*, that is, the Trade of the best Part of the Provinces of the *lower Germany*; carrying to *Hamburg* such Commodities, as arise from their own Manufactures of Silk and Wool, Spices, &c.

12. The River *Weser*, like the *Elbe*, runs through- Page 60.
good Part of the fertile Provinces of *lower Germany*; which Provinces furnish Wool, &c. These the *Dutch* buy with their Silks and Woolen Stuffs, and sometimes with their Dying Stuffs, Logwood, &c.

13. Woolen Cloth (made by the Inhabitants of the Page 61.
Bishopricks of *Münster* and *Paderborn*,) come down the River of *Ems* to *Emden*.

age 63. 14. To *Cologne*, by Way of the *Rhine* and *Moselle*, the *Dutch* send their own Manufactures of *Woolen Stuffs*, &c. which Goods are disposed of, to all the other Towns upon those two Rivers. To *Frankfort*, where are two noted Fairs, the *Dutch* bring *Cloth*, &c. There is not a Town near the *Rhine*, but consumes a World of the Manufacture of *Holland* in Exchange of their own Goods. By the *Maese* the *Dutch* carry on a great Trade, particularly with *Liege*, and *Aix la Chapelle*; at the former, for *Serges*, &c. at the last, for all Sorts of Merchandize made of *Wool*, &c.

age 66. 15. To *Ghent*, *Bruges*, *Brussels*, and *Audenarde*, the *Dutch* send their own Manufactures of *Wool*, &c. The *English* bring into *Holland*, Cloths, &c.; for which

age 68. their Store House is at *Dort*. The *Scots*, several *Woolen Stuffs*, particularly *Worsted Stockings*. The *Irish*, *Beef* in Barrels, *Hides*, *Freezes* and other *Woolen Stuffs*.

age 73. 16. The Trade the *Dutch* have with *France*, is very considerable. The Advantage and Benefit *France* had found by that Trade, made her favour such Commerce in several Treaties with the States. But this good Understanding between the two Nations, began to lessen, when the Treaty of *Munster* was on Foot. The *French* pretended to be ignorant (or perhaps were really so) of the vast Quantities of Merchandize that went out of their Country to foreign Parts. To undeceive them, Monsieur *Boreel*, the *Dutch* Ambassadour, in *France*, made it appear to the Court, that their Republick expended every Year, above 35 Millions of *Livres* in *French* Commodities, by an Account taken out of the Registers of their Custom-House, in the Year 1659. Of which this one Article, *Worsted* spun in *Picardy*, amounted to above

age 74. 1,500,000 *Livres* *.

age 75. 17. This Representation, and other Politick Reasons made the *French* change their Stile, and in the Year 1662, sign a Treaty of Commerce with the *States General*. But in 1667, the *French* increased their Duties on foreign Merchandize, without regard to the Treaty of 1662. They had for some Years, it seems, entertained a Notion, that they could carry on a Trade, after a new and unheard

* *De Witt*, and likewise the *Traite Le Negoce d'Amsterdam*, says *Florins*, which is about double the Sum.

unheard of Method. *They pretended to sell their Goods to their Neighbours, and buy none of them.* It must be allowed, a finer Project never could be invented, to fill *France* with Gold and Silver. I call it a fine, not pernicious Project; but it has been found by unhappy Experience, it was altogether unpracticable.

18. To put this Project in Execution, they set up an *East-India*, and other Trading Companies, as to the *Le-Page 76.* vant, the North, &c. And to quit themselves entirely of foreign Assistance, they began to set up in *France* the Manufacturies of other Countries; imagining at the same Time, those other Countries could not be without *French* Goods and Provisions, and that they would take off the same Quantities as usual, and by Consequence would be obliged to pay ready Money, when they saw the *French* take no more of them in Return. 'Twas on this View, that in the Year 1667, the *French* laid new Duties on foreign Goods, especially Manufactures, which consequently made them much dearer than their own, and was done with Intent to make the People prefer their own to foreign Manufactures.

19. The *Dutch* seeing themselves attacked in the most sensible Part, so well traversed this new Establishment of the *French* Companies, that at last they fell of themselves. They forgot nothing that might ruin the Manufactures of *France*; they set up for making themselves those very Goods they used to have from *France*, and sold them much cheaper than the *French* could do. Reasons of State joined to those of Trade, and the Enmity of both Parties *Page 77.* to each other, broke out at last into an open War, which was properly speaking, a Trade War. To humble this Republick, it was thought nothing would go so far, as the ruining their Trade, by laying on still new Duties on such Merchandize as should be brought into *France*; or else entirely prohibit it.

20. The *States General* try'd all Ways to engage the *French* to regulate their Duties upon Entries by the Tariff made in the Year 1664, and to execute the Treaty of 1662; but finding they could do nothing, they began to Fight the *French* with their own Weapons, that is, they prohibited all *French* Wines, &c. and laid new Duties upon all Goods of *French* Manufactures; the *French* soon perceived a great Diminution of their Commerce.

The

The War coming on between *France* and *Holland*, in the Year 1672, Trade on both Sides was entirely prohibited. However, Monsieur *Colbert* happily foreseeing that it would be a difficult Matter to continue long a War, if no Body took off her Goods and Merchandize, gave Passports to every one that would come and trade thither, which was a sage and successful Conduct.

21. That War ended by the Treaty of *Nimeguen* 1678. A new Treaty of Commerce was struck up, and the Tariff of 1667, abolished, and that of 1664, was set up in Favour to the *Dutch*. But those Gentlemen who had the Management of Affairs after the Death of Monsieur *Colbert*, without having any regard to the last Treaty, set up the Tariff of 1667, and considerably augmented the Duties, in Hopes to augment the Sale of their own Manufactures.

22. The *Dutch* seeing their Commerce continually attacked in such open Manner, and that they had no Hopes of re-establishing Matters on the ancient Footing, applied themselves more than ever, with all Care and Diligence, to put themselves in that Condition, as never more to have Occasion of the *French* Manufactures; and they succeeded so well in this last Article, that they set up among themselves those very Manufactures; as the making of Silks, Gold and Silver Brocades, Hats, Paper, Ribands, and Laces, &c. And the *French*, since that Time, have found to their Detriment, a prodigious Decrease of their Trade in these several Articles. I believe it may be very truly said, that these Trade Quarrels were partly the Cause of the Wars breaking out again between *France* and the *United Provinces*, in 1690. The Declaration of this War was followed with the most severe, and longest Prohibition of Commerce, that ever was known.

23. *What follows, is a true Account of the Goods and Merchandize the Dutch used to carry into Spain, and bring thence before the last Rupture.*

They used to carry chiefly Linen, Woolen Stuffs, &c.

Page 86-7. Their Woolen Stuffs are Drabs, Serges, Camblets of all Sorts, fine and coarse; these Stuffs are all of their own Manufactures, as well as what they call black *Anacosts*.

24. The

24. The principal Merchandize of their own Growth, Page 94. that the *Spaniards* furnish, are Fruits, Wines, Wool, &c. The *Dutch*, when they have a free Trade with *Spain*, take off vast Quantities, it being absolutely necessary in their Manufactures of Cloth.

25. The *Spanish Wool* was ever in high Esteem, on Account of its Fineness and Excellency; there is, however, great Difference; the best coming from the Provinces of *Andalusia*, *Valencia*, *Castile*, *Aragon*, and *Biscay*. The *French*, *Italians*, and even the *English* themselves lay out considerable Sums in this Commodity. So that it may be truly said, that *Spanish Wool* is the greatest Article in their Trade on this Side.

26. In the Northern Parts of *Spain*, the *Dutch* come Page 96. into every Port. But the Traders of *Bilboa* and *Sebastian*, are they that deal most with them. The former being the Magazine of old *Castile* and *Leon*, furnishes those two Provinces with *Woolen Stuffs*, *Silks*, &c. brought thither by the *Dutch*, who carry much the same Goods also to *St. Sebastian*.

27. The Trade of the Southern Parts of *Spain*, which are washed by the *Mediterranean*, is chiefly at *Malaga*, *Cartagena*, *Alicant*, *Valencia*, *Almarica*, and *Majorca**, which afford all the Commodities mentioned before, and Abundance of Wool. The foreign Commodities most proper for this Country, are *French Linen*, good Quantities of *Woolen and Silk Stuffs*, &c.

28. The Trade of *Holland* with *Portugal*, is chiefly at *Lisbon* and *Oporto*. And the Goods they transport thither, are chiefly great Quantities of Manufactures of *Silk*, *Wool*, &c.

29. *Smyrna* is the very Center of the *English* and *Dutch* Page 106. *Levant Trade*, and the principal Mart of their Cloths; which are not only much admired and sought after in the Territories of the Grand Seignior, but in *Persia* and the greatest Part of *Asia*. The principal Merchandize Page 107. that the *Dutch* carry to the *Levant*, are *Cloths*. Their *Cloths*, and other *Woolen Stuffs* have ever made the greatest

* *Majorca* has good Commodities to export, as Oyl in Plenty; also Manufactures, such as *Silk*, *Sayes*, *Serges*, *Blankets*, and Things woven of Yarn or Worsted.

Ker's
Memoirs,
vol. 2.
P. 45.

- greatest Article of what the People of *Europe* are used to send to the *Levant*; the *Venetians* and *French* * supplied those Countries heretofore, but the *English* and *Dutch* have long since made themselves Masters of that considerable Trade; and it is said, that those two Nations
- Page 108. send thither every Year, a prodigious Quantity of all Sorts, Qualities and Colours; great Part of which is presently taken off by the Caravans of *Persia*, that come for that very Purpose to *Symrna*, and thence carry them to sell in their own Country and in *Tartary*.
- Page 109. 30. The greatest Part of the Commodities that the *Dutch* bring from the Ports of the *Levant*, come from the Grand Seignior's Dominions; the rest from those Ports, where arrive the Caravans of *Persia* and *Armenia*; the chief of which Commodities, are raw and spun Silks, twisted Goats and Camels Hair, coloured Camlets, *Wool*, &c.
- Page 114. 31. The *Dutch* carry into *Italy*, viz. to *Genoa*, *Leghorn*, *Naples*, *Messina*, Cloths, Serges, Camblets; but no Cloths to *Venice*, because the Natives make great Quantities there, and very good.
- Page 136. 32. They bring from *Persia*, *Wool*, which is wonderful fine, &c. and send thither coloured Cloths; to *Suratte*, several Sorts of them; to *Bengal*, Cloth, &c.
- Page 141. 33. In the Kingdom of *Tonquin*, the *Dutch* take the Native Commodities, in Exchange for Cloth, &c. The
- Page 146. *Dutch*, the only People of *Europe* trading to *Japan*, carry yearly thither Cloths, *Wool*, &c. In the Isle of
- Page 151. *Banda*, they vend a small Quantity of Stuffs.
- Page 195. 34. The Island of *Curazao* (in *America*) belonging to the *Dutch*, produces, *Wool*, &c.
- Page 231. 35. At the *Cape of Good Hope*, is excellent Beef and Mutton, and by the Care of the Governor, a vast Increase there in both those Sorts of Cattle.

C H A P

* Observe here, that the *French* Trade to the *Levant* Woollen Manufacture, is not absolutely new, as it is commonly represented.

C H A P. XCV.

Memoirs of the Dutch Trade. By Mr. Huet. Of the Spice Trade, and of the Monopoly, first of the Portuguese; since, and now, of the Dutch therein; with the Means made Use of by the latter, to obtain and keep that Monopoly in its utmost Perfection.

1. **T**HE Portuguese were formerly Masters of four good Fortresses in the Isle of *Ceylan*, which secured to them the Cinnamon Trade. Page 119.

2. The Fortresses they had in the Isles of *Tiron*, *Amboina*, *Ternate*, and *Benda*, made them likewise Masters of the Clove and Nutmeg Trade. Page 120.

3. In the Beginning of the Year 1603, the Dutch seized upon the Fortress the Portuguese had in the Island of *Amboina*. Page 124.

4. This Conquest was followed by that of the other *Malucca* Islands, which consequently made them Masters of the Spices, the richest, and most important Commerce of any in the World.

5. The Trade of the Isle of *Ceylan* is entirely in the Dutch Hands, being Masters of all the Coasts, by Reason of the strong Places they possess in those Parts: The King of *Candi* holds the rest of the Island; he was never yet conquered, nor awed, either by the Dutch or Portuguese. The best Cinnamon is the principal Commodity that Island produces. Page 147.

6. The Island of *Amboyna*, and many others of great Resort, as *Bayda*, *Ternate*, &c. are possessed (to use the Expression) in Propriety by the Dutch East India Company, which makes them Masters of the rich Commodities of Cloves, Nutmegs, and Mace, which grow nowhere else.

7. The Island of *Amboina* yeilds only Cloves: Not but the Isles of *Ternate*, *Buchiam*, and *Machiam*, &c. which are, properly speaking, the *Malucca* Islands, produce this Spice as well as *Amboina*; but the Company made the Trees every Year to be rooted up, reserving

only those in *Amboina*; which Island alone, is sufficient to produce more than the whole World can consume. The People of this Island, sell every Year to the Company, or their Officers, their Cloves at a low Rate, and they are obliged to take all the Crop, if I may use the Word, how great soever it be; whence it often appears, that their Stock is greater than they can possibly dispose of.

Page 151. 8. The Island of *Banda*, is the only Place that produces Nutmegs and Mace; the Company are intirely Masters of the Trade of this Island, exclusive of all other Nations, as well as that of *Amboina*.

9. The *Molucca* Islands are five in Number, and are called, *Ternate*, *Tidor*, *Macbiam*, *Bachiam* and *Molire*; and tho' they have their Kings, yet the *Dutch* in reality may be said to be their Sovereigns, by Reason of the Forts they have there. These Islands were heretofore very famous, and much frequented, on Account of the Cloves they produced, in such vast Quantities, before the *Dutch* caused all the Trees to be plucked up. The Company pays Yearly Pensions to the King, and other Lords of *Ternate*, as an Acknowledgment for their consenting to the Destruction of their Clove Trees.

Page 152. 10. Under the Name of Spices, I comprehend Cloves, Nutmegs, Mace, and Cinnamon. There are two Sorts of Cinnamon, the fine, or common and mild Cinnamon; the fine grows only in the Isle of *Ceylan*, in a large Tract of Ground, of about fourteen or fifteen Leagues long, on the Sea Side; but in reality, that Spot of Ground is so very fruitful, that it is sufficient to furnish the whole World.

Page 153. 11. The *Dutch*, who are entirely Masters of all the Sea Coasts of *Ceylan*, hinder the Multiplication of these fine Cinnamon Trees, on Purpose to keep up the Price of that rich Commodity. They omit no Pains to destroy the Trees. They say, that the chief Motives they had in possessing themselves of *Cochin*, was on Account of the Damage they received by the *Portuguese* selling the mild Cinnamon for that of *Ceylan*, which hindered the Company from setting what Price they pleased on theirs and selling what Quantities they otherwise might.

12. Though the *Molucca* Islands and *Amboina*, the chief Places where Cloves grow, are of no very large
Extent

Extent, yet *Amboina* only produces all the Cloves that are used in all Parts of the World; for the *Dutch*, who are Masters of these Islands, by means of their Fortresses, have caused all the Trees to be rooted up, as I said before, except those of *Amboina*: And to make the King of *Ternate* Satisfaction for that Loss, the Company allows every Year, 12,000 Crowns Pension, and about 6000 in Presents. But then the Company is obliged to take all that the *Amboiners* bring them; for which they are to allow them 8 *d.* per Pound.

13. Nutmegs and Mace grow only in the Isle of *Banda*; of which the *Dutch* are likewise Masters; and they take great Care to hinder the Increase of these Trees, and have used the same Precautions to secure to themselves this rich Commerce, as in that of Cinnamon and Cloves.

14. They were not Masters of the Cloves and Nutmegs, till they had conquered the King of *Macassar*; and to rid themselves of all Apprehensions for the future, they obliged him to drive all the *Portuguese* out of his Country, and to shut out of his Sea Ports all Ships that should come from *Europe*, except those belonging to the *Dutch* Company; which has effectually made them absolute Masters of that rich Trade: For the People of the Isle of *Macassar*, being near Neighbours to those of the *Molucca* Islands, used to take underhand, vast Quantities of Cloves and Nutmegs, and sell them to the *Portuguese* and *English*, at a lower Price than the Company; which did not a little prejudice their Company.

C H A P. XCVI.

Observations on the Dutch Spice Trade.

1. **I**T is to be remarked from several of the *English* Writers concerning Wool, as well those which have been already transcribed into this Work, as others, to be inserted hereafter, that they affect much to speak of it as a Produce so far peculiar to these Kingdoms, as that it is possible for *England* to attain a

Monopoly in it, with all the Advantages appendant thereunto. And therefore, although it may seem a Digression, I have thought it necessary, in order to give the true Idea of a Monopoly, to exhibit the foregoing Account of the *Dutch Spice Trade*, which is the most complete Monopoly, and perhaps the only one that is properly such, to be met with in the whole World. By comparing which, with the Condition of the *English*, and that of other Nations, as to *Wool*, we may better judge how well the monopolish Imaginations of the *English*, in this respect, are founded, and how wisely they act in Conformity therewith.

• Ch. 95.
§. 9, 10,
11. 2. And first, The *Dutch* being Masters of *Ceylan*, the only Country that produced the *best Cinnamon*, in order to keep up the Price of the Fruit, took care to prevent too great an Increase of the Trees°. But that alone not sufficing for the Purposes of a Monopoly, so long as a common mild Cinnamon (the Produce, it seems, of *Cochin*) might be had; which tho' nothing near so good, yet would be bought at a Price, to the Abatement of the Consumption, and consequently the Price of the fine Cinnamon of *Ceylan*; therefore the *Dutch* took Care to possess themselves of *Cochin* also.

§. 12. 3. Further, the five only Islands of the World producing Cloves, being brought under the Dominion of the *Dutch*; because one of them alone, produced as many as could possibly be vended, they destroyed the Trees in *four*; and the more effectually to prevent their being replanted, made the Lords of the Soil, a Yearly Allowance for such a Defalcation of their Profits. And, to the End, the Inhabitants of the *fifth* Island, *Amboina*, might have no Temptation, however no extreme Provocation, to dispose of any of theirs clandestinely to other Traders, they stipulated to allow them constantly for their whole Year's Growth, be it never so much and plentiful, one certain Price, viz. 8 d. a Pound.

§. 13. 4. Again, the *Dutch* being possessed in like manner of the Island of *Banda*, which alone produced Nutmegs and Mace; the same Precautions were used by them, to avoid being overstocked; and after all, to prevent their Cloves and Nutmegs being smuggled into other Hands, they were forced to be at the Expence of subduing a neighbour-

neighbouring Island (*Macassar*)^p and subjecting the People to their own Terms, purely on Account of its Vicinity to the *Molucca* Islands (like that of *France* and *Holland*, to *England* and *Ireland*) and the Opportunities thereby afforded of procuring their Nutmegs and Mace, and selling them to the *Portuguese* and *English*, who, for that End, resorted to their Ports under different Pretences; and this in Prejudice to the *Dutch Monopoly* * of those Spices.

C H A P. XCVII.

The British Merchant, or Commerce preserved;
First published in 1713 and 1714, in single
Sheets, twice a Week. London, Printed
1721, in three Volumes.

P R E F A C E.

1. **T**HAT this Work may be useful to future Ages, Vol. 1:
as it has been of the utmost Importance to the present: It is therefore necessary to give the Rise and History of it. p. 7.

2. When

* I think I may leave the Application to my Readers; since so much has already appeared from the foregoing *Memoirs of the Dutch Trade*, and in the Sequel of this Work will be seen much more; sufficiently proving, that notwithstanding the *Dutch Policy*, about their Spices, has been so frequently quoted for our Imitation in the Woolen Trade; the two Cases are so far from being Parallel, that there is not the least Similitude between them. But tho' it is not in the Power of Law, because it is not possible in the Nature of the Thing, to acquire to the *English*, this wished for Monopoly of Woolen Manufacture, or any Thing like it; yet *England* has acted in it, as if it had been possible. And I may venture to say, that what was at the Bottom intended thereby, has been also effected. A Monopoly, in *some Sense*, against the Wool Grower has been created; how far that is good Policy, will be the Subject of a future Discussion.

Page 8.

2. When *Great-Britain* and her Allies, under the Conduct of the Duke of *Marlborough*, had reduced *France* to the Necessity of suing for Peace, there were two Treaties set on Foot; the one of Peace; the other of Commerce; though *Great-Britain* had so humbled *France* with the Sword, yet *France*, according to the old Maxim, was too hard for her at the Pen, and through the Unskilfulness of her Ministers in Trade, brought her to ratify a Treaty of Commerce, that must, in a very few Years have proved her utter Destruction.

Page 9.

3. But as Fortune (who has ever been her Guardian in Distress) would have it, this Treaty could not take Effect, unless the Parliament consented to reduce the high Duties, and take off the Prohibition so wisely laid on *French* Commodities. As this would have destroyed all the best Branches of our Trade, and deprived many hundred Thousand Manufacturers of their Subsistence, it began to give an Alarm. The Ministers apprized of the Difficulties they might meet with, in procuring the Treaty to be made effectual by Parliament, began it in an artful Manner. They had a Majority in the House of Commons implicitly at their Devotion, and as they were fond of their own Child, they determined to support it. They knew that *French* Wine was a relishing Liquor to *English* Palates, and therefore made a Motion to take off the Duties of it for two Months. This Motion was very accidentally, though very wisely opposed, as it was ready to pass the House, and dropp'd.

4. As this Motion, had it passed into a Law, would have destroyed our *Portugal* Trade, the Alarm increasing, became general among the Merchants and Traders who knew the fatal Consequences of it. Many Pamphlets were published to open the Eyes of our Legislators, and to convince them that the preserving our Looms, and the *Rents* of *Great-Britain*, was of greater Consequence to the Nation, than gratifying our Palates with *French* Wine.

5. The Treaty however was to be supported at any Rate; the Persons concerned in making it, either could not, or would not, see the Mistakes in it; and the Nation was to be convinced, that through their great Skill in Trade, they had made an excellent Treaty of Commerce.

6. To

6. To these Ends, a Hireling Writer was employed, Page 10. the Author, of a weekly Paper writ some Years before, a Daniel called *THE REVIEW*; in which the *French Trade* is De Foe. very often condemned as detrimental to this Kingdom. This Person, however, undertook the Cause, and published a Paper thrice a Week, under the Title of the *MERCATOR*, or *Commerce retrieved*; in which he was to prove, that the Trade to *France*, though contrary to all Experience, had always been beneficial to this Kingdom, and would be so again upon the Foot of this Treaty.

7. As this Author had a Knack of writing very plausibly, and they who employed him, and furnished him with Materials, had the Command of all the publick Papers in the *Custom-House*, he had it in his Power to do a great deal of Mischief among such as were unskilled in Trade, and at the same Time very fond of *French Wine*, which it was then a great Crime to be against.

8. Several ingenious Merchants, of long Experience, Page 11. and well skilled in Trade, joined together to contradict the Impositions of this Writer: They knew he had many Heads, besides the Advantages of publick Papers, to help him; and therefore, thought this the most feasible Way to confute him, and set the State of our Trade in a clear Light, because they were sensible, that it was impossible for any one Man to be Master of so much Experience, as was required to furnish Materials from so many different Branches of our Trade, as would be touched upon in this Debate.

9. The Paper we put out was, in Opposition to his Title, called the *BRITISH MERCHANT*, or *Commerce preserved*, and was published twice a Week; it contained many valuable Papers, and so much Knowledge in Trade, as would never have appeared in the World, had it not been thus extorted from those worthy Gentlemen.

10. As these Materials lay scattered about in loose Papers, without any Form or Order, and considering the Difficulty we found in tracing the State of our Trade from past Times down to the present, I thought it necessary to methodize them in this Manner, by throwing the Materials on each Head together, as well as the Nature of the several Trades touched upon, which are interwoven one with another, would admit; that
Posterity,

Posterity, as well as the present Age, might have the Benefit of them, and both be convinced to whom we owe the Preservation of our Trade, on which depends the chief Support and Power of *Great-Britain*.

Page 13. 11. The Reason these Materials lay so disposed and scattered in these Papers, was, that the *Mercator*, whenever he was close set, always quitted the Point he was upon, and trump'd up something new; we were therefore forced to follow him, to expose his new Forgeries, before they had made too deep an Impression. I have given all his material Arguments in his own Words, that the Reader may the better judge of them, and of the Spirit with which this important Debate was carried on; and I have added to this Work, a great many useful Materials, in order to make it more complete.

12. These Papers, and the convincing Arguments some of those Gentlemen gave at the Bar of both Houses of Parliament, had the good Effect to throw out the pernicious *Bill of Commerce*. But here I must do Justice to that worthy Gentleman, Sir *Thomas Hanmer*, who, at a Time when the Court, who espoused the Bill, had a greater Influence than ever was known in a House of Commons, joined his Influence to them who opposed it, and rejected it by nine Votes, when we expected to have lost the Question.

Page 14. 13. The Person to whom our Country is chiefly obliged for these Papers, and who had the greatest Hand in them, is *Henry Martin*, Esq; lately deceased. Besides him, the following Persons were assisting, Sir *Charles Cooke*, Merchant, Sir *Theodore Janssen*, Bart. *James*

Page 15. *Milner* Esq; Merchant, Mr. *Nathaniel Toriano*, Mr. *Joshua Gee*, Mr. *David Martin*, Merchants. Besides the above Persons, there were several other very able and worthy Merchants concerned in this Work. And since I have mentioned this Account of the Gentlemen who assisted, I must not forget the Right Honourable *Charles*,

Page 16. late Earl of *Halifax*, and the Right Honourable *James*,

Page 17. late Earl *Stanhope*. My Lord *Halifax*, was the Support and very Spirit of the Paper, called the *British Merchant*. He assisted at the Meetings of these Gentlemen, and contributed largely to the Expence of the Work.

Page 18. General *Stanhope* * came into the House of Commons,

* Afterwards, Earl *Stanhope*.

as a Vote was ready to pass for taking off the Duties on *French Wines* for two Months, by which our Treaty with *Portugal* would have been instantly broken, by which we should have lost above a Million of Money Sterling, *per Ann.* But he opposed the Vote, began the Debate, and brought them to consent, that our Merchants should first be heard *.

C H A P.

* *N. B.* It was thought proper to insert thus much of this Preface, because it shews the peculiar Authority of the Work following it; which, notwithstanding that it gives a very different Notion and Account of the Woolen Trade in general, from most of the Writers who have gone before, notwithstanding it was first published in detached Parts, and read in all the Coffee-Houses, &c. of the Kingdom, yet has in that particular Respect, been as little attended to by subsequent Writers upon the Subject; and appears to have made as little Impression upon the Minds and Opinions of the People of *England*, as if such a Work had never been published for their Information.

Nor can this general Oversight be accounted for, but in the following manner. At the Time these Papers were first wrote, the Nation was quite intoxicated with Party Distinctions, of *High and Low Church*, &c. So that Persons and Sounds were more attended to, than Sense and Things.

These Papers were indeed re-printed in 1721; but that again was an unlucky Season, when the Thoughts of the People were wholly merged in the Disasters of the *South Sea*, &c. It's true, the Books obtained a Place in several Libraries of Note. But the Title having no immediate Reference to *Wool*, and the principal Scope thereof being known to be, *the Treaty, or Bill of Commerce with France*, which was rejected, and which therefore the Nation has not since been under any particular Necessity of considering; hence it has come to pass, that what lyes interspersed in these Volumes, relating to *Wool*, has been thus long in a manner wholly unobserved; which could not have happened to a Work of such Credit and Authority, had it treated distinctly of *Wool only*.

C H A P. XCVIII.

*The British Merchant, 1713.**General Maxims of Trade.*

Page 1.

1. **T**HERE are general Maxims of Trade, which are assented to by every Body. That a Trade may be of Benefit to the Merchant, and an Injury to the Body of the Nation, is one of these Maxims. I shall confine myself to speak of Trade only as it is, nationally, good or bad.

Page 2.

Page 5.

2. The Exportation of Manufactures is, in the highest Degree, beneficial to a Nation.

3. The Exportation of Superfluities † is so much clear Gain.

4. The Importation of foreign Materials to be manufactured by us, instead of importing manufactured Goods, is the saving a great deal of Money.

5. The exchanging Commodities for Commodities, is generally an Advantage.

6. All Imports of Goods, which are re-exported, leave a real Benefit.

7. The letting Ships to Freight to other Nations, is profitable.

8. The Imports of Things, of absolute Necessity, cannot be esteemed bad.

9. The importing Commodities of real Luxury, is so much real Loss as they amount to.

10. The Importation of such Goods as hinder the Consumption of our own, or check the Progress of any of our Manufactures, is a visible Disadvantage*.

C H A P.

† By Superfluities is, and must be here understood, the spare Produce of a Country; which (it is to be noted) is here put as the second Maxim of sound Policy; and it is what all Nations govern themselves by, as a Means to uphold the *Rents* of Land, and secure as much as may be, the Balance of Trade.

* As a farther Introduction to, and Explanation of, what follows, we are to understand, that a principal Argument urged by the *Mercator*, in Defence of the *Bill of Commerce* with *France*, was the pretended peculiar Circumstances of
England

C H A P. XCXIX.

The British Merchant, 1713. Of the French fine Cloths, their Goodness and Price.

1. **T**HE Exportation of our Woolen Goods to *France*, is so well barred against, that there is not the least Hopes of any Vent for them there. Several Merchants have brought over from thence, Patterns of their Woolen Goods, with the Prices they are sold at; and it appears, that in general, they are, Goodness for Goodness, cheaper than ours. Their Cloth made of *Spanish* Wool, which is brought to great Perfection, is sold in the Shops for 16 to 17 *Livres* the Ell (which is a Yard, a Quarter, and an Inch) and as a *French* Livre is exactly worth one of our Shillings, they sell the Ell there as cheap, as we sell here the Yard, which is 25 per Cent. Difference. Page 8.
Page 9.

2. And if what is owned on all Hands be true, that the *French* do send great Quantities of Woolen Goods to *Spain, Italy, Portugal, Turkey*, and the *Rhine*, and other Places, although they pay a Duty upon Exportation; 'tis a Demonstration, that they have more † than is French
Woolen
Manufa-
cture, 25
per Cent.
cheaper
than ours.

England, above all other Nations, in respect of *Wool*, 'That the Nation had nothing to do, but to prevent its being exported, in order to command a Trade with all foreign States for Woolen Goods, however, otherwise, they might be disinclined to *England*.' This extraordinary Assertion put the *British* Merchant under a Necessity of shewing the real Circumstance of *England*, in Regard to *Wool*; and his Account happens to be different from the Generality of *English* Writers upon the same Subject. Nevertheless, it is to be esteemed above all others, being, if I may so call it, the Verdict of a Jury of the most eminent *English* Merchants, whose Testimony and Judgment, in this Case, cannot be suspected.

† *Objection*, 'What need the *French* limit the Exportation of our Cloth, &c. to three Places, and subject it to strict Visitations, and insist to continue a high Duty upon it, if they have enough of their own, and can afford it cheaper than we?

Answe.

is sufficient for their own Wear, and consequently no great Occasion for any of ours.

C H A P. C.

The British Merchant, 1713. Of the Trade of England in general.

1. **T**HE best Way to preserve our Commerce, is to recommend the Preservation of the best Markets, for the Product and Manufactures of our native Country.

2. The first and best Markets of *England*, are the Natives and Inhabitants of *England*. It is computed, that *we* have seven * Millions of People; and that great and small, rich and poor, one with another, are not lodged, fed and clothed, for less than 7 *l.* per Head; so that the Expence and Consumption of our whole People, must amount to forty-nine or fifty Millions of Pounds *Sterling per Ann.*

3. This

Answer. ' By the long Interruption of Commerce and Correspondence between the two Nations, the *French* knew as little the Price of our Commodities, as we did the Price of theirs; and being extremely jealous of their Manufactures, they would not give Way to any the least Thing that could prejudice them. In short, they had a Mind to be secure against all Events.

' Have not we done the like in the self same Case? We outdo, in our own Thoughts, all the World in the Woolen Manufactures: But not depending upon that single Advantage of Working better than others, we have laid very high Duties upon all foreign Woolen Goods, and even prohibited them. And 'tis well we did so; for else the *French* would have made our Hearts ache since the Peace, by their great Importations of Woolen Goods upon us.

Contin. : ' By the Hearth Books it appeared, that the Number of Rapin, of Houses in *England* and *Wales*, soon after the *Restoration*, was about 1230,000; and reckoning six Persons, at a Medium, to each House, it fixes the Number of the People, at that Time, to be 7380,000.

3. This whole Sum is annually paid for the Product and Manufactures of Great Britain, except only so much of it as is paid for our foreign Consumption, and for the Annual Lodging of our People.

4. Our whole Importations do not exceed the Value of 5 Millions *per Ann.*; great Quantities of these are re-exported, and there is not the least Reason to believe, that our whole foreign Consumption, can amount to 4 Millions. *Our Annual Importations*

5. Neither is there any Reason to believe, that our People are lodged at above the Price of 10 s. *per Head* at a Medium, or, that the whole House Rents of England, for seven Millions of People, can exceed three Millions and a Half. *Page 166. Our House Rents.*

6. Consequently, allowing seven Millions and a Half for Lodging, and our foreign Consumption, above 12 s. *per Head* of the 50 Millions Expence of our People, are paid for the Product and Manufacture of our Native Country. *Annually paid by our own People.*

7. The Gentleman fondly imagines, that he receives his Rent from his Tenant, the Weaver, that he is paid his Wages by the Master Clothier, but it is the Consumer † that pays both; he pays the Price of the Wool and

† I ask then, what makes the Consumption, or rather, pays for it? The Landholders Rent, which is to him instead of Labour; and the Labour of all others, which is to them instead of Rent. These Things run so much in a Circle, that it is hard to say which gives the first Movement. But this Difficulty is seemingly at least got over, by considering that the Landholder has some Necessaries of Life within himself, which no other Persons have independently of him. And this methinks is sufficient to give him that Precedence in Society, which some have appeared inclinable to dispute with him. With regard to the present Subject, and State of Things, it is easy to conceive, that what the Landholder receives in Rent, he partly bestows in Consumption, but, I think, the much greater Part on Labour, which is to others creating what is equivalent to Rent; and what he, the Labourer, does in like manner bestow, is again issued, partly in Consumption, partly in more and other Labour. Thus is Labour undulated from an original Yearly Rent of, suppose, ten Millions, to an Expence

and the Charge of the Manufacture ; neither the one, nor the other can be paid, but by the Consumption of the People.

What every Person pays Annually to Land and Labour. 8. For my Part therefore, I consider every Person in the Kingdom, for what he eats and drinks, and wears, as a Tenant to the Lands, and a Paymaster of our Labourers ; and if seven Millions of People, consume the Yearly Value of 42 Millions of our Native Product and Manufacture, as was said above, every one at a Medium, pays the Yearly Sum of six Pounds, to the Land and Labour of this Kingdom ; every one is a Market of such Value to his Country.

Page 167. Our Annual Exports, do not amount to seven Millions ; and therefore, since our own People are a Market for our own Product and Manufactures, to the Value of 42 Millions Yearly, all our foreign Markets joined together, are not one sixth Part of that Value. 9. All our Annual Exportations to foreign Countries, both of our own, and foreign Goods and Merchandizes, do not amount to seven Millions ; and therefore, since our own People are a Market for our own Product and Manufactures, to the Value of 42 Millions Yearly, all our foreign Markets joined together, are not one sixth Part of that Value.

10. Besides, from the foreign Markets, there ought to be deducted the Price of all the Goods we buy, and especially, that interfere with, and hinder the Consumption of our own ; and if this shall be considered, it will be found that all our foreign Markets, far from a sixth Part, cannot be equal to one twentieth Part of our own, for

Expence and Consumption, of perhaps 40 Millions and upwards, within the Circle of a Year ; from which Consumption the Government also receiving a great Share of its Support, in the Shape of Customs, Excise, &c. that reverts also to the Community in Labour and Consumption. Hence appears the Absurdity of that Notion we have met with, that 400,000 *l.* of Woolen Manufacture exported, avails the Nation more than 4,000,000 *l.* consumed at home ; it being plain, that the latter creates ten Times the Labour, which makes, or rather pays for, ten Times the Consumption, adds ten Times as much to the public Revenue ; and is in short, to all National Purposes, of ten Times the Use and Benefit. And though this is not said to disparage the Benefits from Exportation, which are very great, yet it may lead us to comprehend more clearly what the *British Merchant* here means ; and which I interpret into the Propriety and Expediency of paying a strict Regard to the *Landed Interest*, as the great Wheel and main Spring of *Labour and Consumption, Supplies, &c.*

*Ch. 79.
§. 29.*

Ch. 100. *Memoirs of Wool, &c.* 113

for taking off our Native Product and Manufactures. It remains therefore, as I said at first, that our own Consumption, the Consumption of our own People, are the best and greatest Market, for the Product and Manufactures of our own Country. The Preservation and Increase of this Market ought therefore to be the Thing principally regarded.

11. It is not to be expected, that our own People will ever buy the Product or Manufactures of their own Country, if the like are to be had cheaper from foreign Nations. Therefore those of foreign Nations are either prohibited or loaded with Duties, that our own have no Rival to contend with among ourselves. And I make no Doubt, that the Use of foreign Manufactures in *England*, will always be discouraged by our Legislators, for this very Reason, that our own Consumption which pays annually the Sum of 42 Millions to our own Product and Manufactures, that is, to the Rents of our Lands, and the Labour of our People, may never pay any Part of the above-mentioned Sum to the Rents and Labour of foreign Nations, or at least, that sufficient Care will be taken, that the Consumption of every other Nation shall pay as much to the Rents and Labour of *Great-Britain*, as *Great-Britain* shall pay to any such other Nation.

12. We suffer the Goods and Merchandizes of *Holland*, *Except Germany, Portugal, and Italy*, to be imported and consumed among us; and it is well we do, for we export a much greater Value of our own to those Countries, than we take from them. So that the Consumption of those Nations pays much greater Sums to the Rents of our Lands and the Labour of our People, than ours does to them.

13. But we keep out as much as possible the Goods and Merchandizes of *France*, because our Consumption of them would very much hinder the Consumption of our own, and abate a great Part of 42 Millions, which it now pays to the Rents of our Lands and the Labour of our People. The prodigious Increase of our foreign Traffic, since our prohibiting the *French Trade*, [viz. in 1678'] is a full Proof of this.

Page 168.
Reasons why foreign Manufactures are to be discouraged in England.

Page 169.

those of Holland, Germany, Portugal, and Italy.

Reasons against those of France.

Page 177.

Ch. 62.

§. 12.

Note.

Ch. 72.

§. 1 Note.

C H A P. CI.

The British Merchant, 1713.

The Bill of Commerce, not a Party, but a National Affair.

Page 202. 1. **T**H E R E are great Pains taken to have this Controversy about the *French Trade* and *Bill of Commerce*, thought a Party Controversy ; but to shew, that this is quite a national Affair, I will venture to say, that by the passing of that Bill, almost all our Trade had been lost.

Page 203. 2. Had *Spain* remained with the House of *Austria*, *France* had been excluded from that Trade, and *Great-Britain* would have supplied the *Spanish West-Indies* with Manufactures. But *Portugal* hereafter must stand so much in awe of *France* and *Spain* united, that the former must be let in for a good Share of that Trade. The Case of

Page 204. *Germany* is not very different. We can hardly expect so good a Trade with that Country, when they have Peace with *France*, as we had before; both because many Commodities are brought from *France*, since the Restoration of their Commerce with that Kingdom, and because many of their own Manufactures will be cultivated in a Time of Peace. But what if the Law that was intended, should have passed, and the Duties upon *French* Linens should have been reduced down to those of *Germany*? Should we then have bought so much Linen from *Germany*, when we could import it cheaper from a nearer Nation? And would *Germany* have then taken such Quantities of our Woolen Manufactures*? We might with much more Reason have expected, that the *Avocatoria*

* Apply this to the Case of *Ireland*; and see if the Policy and Act^s, intending to prevent the Exportation of Woolen Manufacture from thence to foreign Parts (which nevertheless has not been effected) and in Lieu thereof, encouraging the Linen Manufacture there (which actually has succeeded) can be thought to have been any Way beneficial to the Woolen Trade of *England*, although that was the Thing principally designed.

catoria † would have been published throughout the Empire, or a total Prohibition of our Woolen Manufactures. Whatsoever therefore we shall save of this Trade, we owe to the rejecting the Bill of Commerce *.

3. It cannot be denied, that the *French* have a very great Trade to *Turkey*; and we have seen a Letter from *Galata*, shewing, that a *French* Man of War lately imported 170 Bales of Cloth, besides other Goods; which is a Demonstration that their Trade is very great; especially, if the Value of their Cloth be considered, which is almost all of the finer Sorts. And certainly, if they shall want neither *Spanish* Wool, nor *Cochineal*, at the best Hand, they must needs improve in that Trade.

C H A P.

† Does this Way of Reasoning square with the common Notions, of our Wool, for Clothing, being to all the World, as much a Necessary of Life, as any Thing else? Does this argue, that if we can but keep our WOOL at home, we may command a Trade for Woolen Goods with all Nations? Or does it not rather demonstrate, as before observed, that the Secret of promoting the *English* Woolen Trade, consists in a discreet Management of Affairs with foreign States, by making proper Treaties; by dealing out the *English* Custom, for such foreign Wares as are fit to be imported, to those Places where it is likely to turn to the best Account, by procuring, in the Way of Exchange, the Admission of our Woolen Goods in the greatest Quantities, and upon the easiest Terms?

* ' Here I cannot but take Notice, that these two Articles Page 227: of *Spanish* Wool and *Cochineal*, re-exported to *France* in 1687 (See a List of foreign Goods exported to *France* from *Michaelmas* 1686, to *Michaelmas* 1687, *British Merchant*, vol. 1. pag. 223.) are sufficient to demonstrate, that the Manufacture of *Spanish* Cloth, and the finest Dye of that Manufacture are not so new Things in that Kingdom, as some would have them thought; and they have been every Year since improving. And as long as they shall be able to come at *Spanish* Wool and *Cochineal* at the best Hand, nothing can hinder their arriving at the utmost Perfection in that Manufacture. They will stand in no Need of *Spanish* Cloth from *England*, and must certainly be able to furnish other Markets.'

C H A P. CII.

Vol. 2.

*The British Merchant, 1713.*E X T R A C T of a Letter from *Lisbon*, with Remarks, &c.*Lisbon, November 7, 1713.*

S I R,

Page 26. 1. 'I wrote you a few Lines the 20th ult. since which
' are come in the *Betty, John Moore, &c.*' *

Page 30. 2. This Gentleman bids us depend upon a Prohibition,
not only of our Woolen Cloths, but of our Bays and
other Goods, if the Commerce Bill should pass. My
Antagonists are of another Opinion. *Woolen Goods*, say
they, the *Portuguese* must have, and from what other
Nation can they be supplied? So that in their Opinion,
we may safely break the *Portugal Treaty*; that Nation
will still be obliged to take off our Woolen Goods, and
consequently must still contribute to the Increase of our
Treasure, and to the raising of the Value of our Native
Com-

* And after acknowledging the Receipt of several Bales
of Woolen Goods, he goes on:

'I now find myself honoured with Yours of *October 6*,
'and perceive you intend two Bales more by the *Mary*,
'Capt. *Field*. I am of Opinion, you had as good stop
'your Hands, at least send sparingly, 'till I can give you
'some more certain News about the *Brazil* Ships, and that
'you find what will be done in your Parliament, in Rela-
'tion to the *French Trade*; for I dread their taking some
'Resolutions that will prove destructive to this. Thus far
'you may depend upon, that if the Bill of Commerce in
'Favour of the *French*, passes, this Court will do their ut-
'most to oppress the *English Trade*; and it's much to be
'feared, that the Treaty * being broken by us, they will not
'be content to prohibit Cloths only, but proceed to forbid
'Bays and other Goods, which the *French* are proposing to
'bring hither, and are representing how much more ad-
'vantagous to *Portugal*, a Trade with *France* would be,
'than with *England*: *France* taking off great Quantities of
'their Sugars and Tobacco, and *England* nothing but their
'Gold, except it be some Wine and Fruits.'

* Ch. 88.

§. 6. Note.

Ch. 102. *Memoirs of Wool, &c.* 117

Commodities and Manufactures. They differ very much from this *Lisbon* Correspondent. This Gentleman endeavours to persuade us, that the *French* are at this very Juncture of Time, proposing to serve the *Portuguese* with Cloths, Bays, and other Goods; and representing to them how much more beneficial it would be to them to trade with *France* than *England*, and how much greater Quantities of Goods *France* will take off from that Country.

3. My Antagonists, no doubt, will laugh at Woollen Manufacture from *France*. 'Let us see now (say they, N^o. 67.) their Dogs Hair Broad Cloth, their rough half dressed Druggets, their unshorn Dozens, their Cabbage-net Bays, and let them be matched with the *English* Goods of the same Denomination.'

They write with such an Air of Confidence, that one would almost believe there is no Mutton at all in *France*, or that their Sheep wore no Fleeces. Now if I should produce a hundred living Witnesses, that Wool, and not Dogs Hair, grows on the Backs of *French* Sheep, they would call them all Parties against the *Bill of Commerce*. I shall therefore give them a Witness, that has been dead above this forty Years. It is the Maxims of *Holland*, by the famous *Monsieur de Wit*. In the 7th Chap. 2d Part, among the Goods which *Holland* annually bought from *France*, we read WOOLEN YARN, SPUN IN ALL PARTS OF PICARDY, WORTH MORE THAN ONE MILLION AND A HALF.

WOOLEN YARN worth a Million and a Half of *Livres* *, purchased annually from one *French* Province only to *Holland*, and yet is there no Wool at all in *France*?

4. *Flanders* heretofore, in the Times of the Dukes of *Burgundy*, was the Seat of the Woollen Manufacture. We then sold our Wool to the *Flemings*, and bought from them our Woollen Cloths. Since that Time, by the coming in of the *Walloons*, by wholesome Laws, and by applying ourselves to the Work in earnest, we arrived at Perfection. The *Flemings* are gone off to fine Lace and Linens, and we sell them yearly, a very great Value of Woollen Cloths; and shall still, perhaps, be

H 3

able

* *Florins* (See Ch. 94. §. 16. Note.)

able to do this, unless by any Provocation we force them upon Prohibitions*.

5. But can we hope to export any of our Woolen Manufactures to *France*. They have Wool of their own, and they can never want of the finest Sort from the Dominions of King *Philip* †.

Page 91. 6. The Trade to those Nations therefore, who consume the greatest Quantity of our Woolen Manufactures, must, and will, be most effectually promoted ‡.

7. Our Forefathers (it's certain) enjoyed a great Trade || with *France*, whilst they paid easy and reasonable

The Prohibition of their Lace hindered our Woolen Exports. France supplies Turkey with more fine Cloths than we.

* We have learned better I hope, by our unsuccessful Attempts, to prohibit the *Flanders Laces*, which made the *Flemings* retaliate upon us, and lessened our Exportation of Woolen Manufactures, to the Value of several hundred thousand Pounds *per Ann.*

† ' They have followed it now for many Years, with uncommon Application; and for the Encouragement of their Artists, they have put as many Hardships as possible, upon foreign Manufactures. They now not only supply their own People, but *Smyrna* and *Constantinople*, with more fine Cloths than are sent thither from *Great Britain*, and even *Italy* is served with the Woolen Manufactures of *France*.'

‡ ' I will therefore conclude, that our Commerce with *Russia*, the *East Country*, *Germany*, *Holland*, *Flanders*, *Portugal*, the *Straits*, *Italy* and *Turkey*, with whom we traded during the War, to the great Benefit of this Nation, will be encouraged, and that due and proper Measures will be taken for restoring our Trade with *Spain*.'

|| ' But as their own Manufacture increased, they gradually imposed greater Customs on ours, whereby that Trade was sensibly discouraged; and no sooner had the *French King* established his Tariff in 1664, whereby we were obliged to pay 40 Livres for Custom for a Cloth, and extravagant Duties for all our other Manufactures, but the Exportation thereof abated apace. It is certain his said Majesty has nothing more at Heart, than to encourage the Consumption of his Woolen Manufactures, and that he spares no Charge to promote the same. And tho' it was some Time before the *Levant* Trade flourished, yet they now import at some of the Scales in *Turkey*, CLOTH and PERPETS to a greater Value, than our *Turkey* Merchants,

And also with Perpets, to a greater Value.

' By

Ch. 102. *Memoirs of Wool, &c.* 119

able Duties, viz. six Livres for a Cloth, and one Livre for a Piece of Serge; then the Woolen Manufactures exported thither, amounted to a vast Sum.

8. In 1662, even before the Tariff of 1664, and Page 123. when the Duties upon our Goods were a great deal less in *France*, than by that Tariff, yet our Exports " to all " Ch. 43. Parts of the World in that Year, amounted to no more P. S. than 2,022,812 l. 4s.

9. Again,

' By these, and other proper Methods, their Trade and their
' Woolen Manufactures have been established in *France*, Page 95.
' and they are now brought to a very great Perfection. Do
' not the People of that Kingdom generally wear Woolen
' Cloth, and Stuffs; and are not those worn there of their
' own Manufacture? Is it not acknowledged by all that
' have lived in *Italy*, as well as in *Turkey*, that they supply *France*
' those Countries with great Quantities of Woolen Manu-^{furnishes}
' factures; and did they not formerly furnish us with Stuffs *Italy and*
' and Druggets to a great Value? *Turkey,*

' Besides, have not the *Spaniards* laid aside their old Ha-^{and did us}
' bit, which was made of *English* Bays, and are now clothed with Stuffs
' in *French* Stuffs, &c. ? And can we be so very unhappy, and Drug-
' to imagine there are but few Woolen Manufactures in gets.
' *France* ?

' But the *Mercator* says, they are not so good as ours;
' and I must confess, they generally are not; especially
' their superfine Cloths. However, when it turns to their *We imitate*
' Account, they will make them very near as good as their the French
' Neighbours, and can sell them cheaper. ^{in some}

' Have we forgot, that our *Drape de Berry*, *Serge de* of their
' *Nismes*, and other Goods, took their Names from their Woolen
' Manufactures? But if they, or the Foreigners with whom Goods.
' they trade, demand, and are pleased with a lighter, and *Lighter*
' worse made Cloth than ours, because it's cheaper, are not Cloth re-
' they in the right to gratify them. ^{quired a-}

' The *Venetians*, some Years past, supplied a great part broad than
' of *Italy* and the *Levant*, with their fine Cloth, which is formerly.
' an excellent Manufacture: But by being obliged by the The Vene-
' Law of their Country, to keep up to their own Standard, tians Cloth
' have since, in several Places, lost nine Parts in ten, of that Manufa-
' Trade. ^{Eure sunk,}

' What is become of our noble Manufacture of *Plunkets*, and why.
' *Violets* and *Blues*, formerly made in *Suffolk*? Are not Our Cloths
' these Sorts beat out entirely, by a slighter and inferior much
' Sort made in *Gloucestershire*? And are not the Cloths lighter
' even of this Country, which are made for Exportation, than here-
' of less Substance than formerly. ^{before.}

9. Again, in 1669, even after *France* had loaded us with the severe Tariff of 1667, yet our Exports to all the World, amounted to 2,063,224 *l.* 19 s^r. The Difference between the two Years is inconsiderable: So that it seems the Case was much the same, whether we pay low Duties or high Duties in *France*; our Exportations to all the World, differed but very little. Nay, we made the greater Exportations to all the World, even when *France* loaded our Goods with higher Duties; but then it is certain, it must have increased in other Countries.

10. In 1699, our Exports to all the World were, 6,788,166 *l.* 17 s. 6 d.^r; above three Times as much as in either of the former Years. In 1703, our Exports to all the World were, 6,644,103 *l.*^s; almost as much as in 1699; but still above three Times as much as in either of the former Years. The Duties in *France* upon our Goods, in 1699, were the very same as they are now; so that we could make no greater Exportations thither than we do now. But whatever Exportations we

‘ Let our *Salisbury* Clothiers answer, how many more superfine *Spanish* Cloths did they formerly sell for *Turkey*, than at present. Or if the *Turkey* Merchants would confess, what is the Reason, that that Part of their Trade is almost lost; I am afraid it would be found, that the *French* fine Cloth prevents the Consumption of ours; for it is obvious by their present Exports, they are well enough inclined, for the public Good, to promote, nay, to force a Trade in the *Levant*; and yet they take off but little of this Sort of Cloth.

‘ But in all Countries, how few are there who buy the best Cloth, comparatively, with those that are forced to content themselves with the inferior Sorts?

‘ If the *French* then come to the same Markets with us, and have such Sorts of Cloth as we have, tho’ they are really inferior, will not theirs be prejudicial to the Sale of ours?

‘ The *Mercator* may tell a *Yorkshire* Clothier, that it’s in vain for him to send up his Cloth to *London*, to be disposed of there; because there are many better Sorts from the Western Parts, to be sold every Day in that City: But he will never take his Advice, nor credit what he says.

‘ In short, an inferior Commodity will always affect the Price of a better, at the same Market.’

we made to *France*, in 1699, it is certain, we exported very little in 1703; for in that Year we were at War, and our Goods and Merchandizes were all prohibited in that Kingdom. And notwithstanding this; and though we had then also a War with *Spain*, and could send little or nothing to that Country, yet our Exports were almost as great as in 1699, and above three Times as much as in 1662, when we were every where at Peace, and paid so very easy Duties in the *French* Dominions.

11. Now what can be the Reason that our whole Trade is so much better, when our Goods in *France* are either prohibited, or loaded with excessive Duties? It can be no other, than that the *French* Goods here, are either prohibited, or loaded with higher Duties than those of other Countries; that we therefore chuse to buy the Goods of other Countries; and that they in Return enlarge the Trade with us, and take off so many more of our Manufactures; after the Example of *Portugal*, which by her very Treaty, buys our Woolen Manufactures, upon Condition^a, that we will buy her Wines.

^a Ch. 88.
§. 6. Note.

C H A P. CIII.

The British Merchant, 1713.

Arret of the [*French*] King's Council,
Oct. 23, 1703.

1. ' **T**HE King having by Arret of Council of the
' 14th of *July* last, for Reasons there ex-
' plained, regulated the Duties upon the Exportation of Page 135.
' Stuffs, called Bays, Perpetuanas, &c. which are sent
' into *Italy*, and any Way whatsoever, at 10 Sols per
' 100; and his Majesty being informed, that there is a
' very considerable Quantity of the said Goods consumed
' in *Italy*, of the Growth and Manufacture of *Eng-*
' *land*, and that it will be very advantageous to the Ma-
' nufactures of the Kingdom, to fix the Duties of Ex-
' portation, so that the Merchants may be able to furnish
' *Italy* with the said Stuffs, at the same Price as the
' *Manufacturers*

‘ *Manufactures of England do; WHICH HIS MAJESTY
BEING WILLING TO GRANT; and to encourage A
TRADE WHICH IS SO ADVANTAGEOUS TO HIS SUB-
JECTS; has therefore ORDAINED, and does hereby
ORDAIN, That the said Stuffs called Bays, Perpetuanas,
&c. of the Manufactures of this Kingdom, which are
sent into Italy, by any Way whatsoever, shall pay but
30 Sols per 100 Weight, instead of * all the Duties
which*

* ‘ The *Mercator* has been so eloquent upon the Dogs
Ch. 102. ‘ Hair Broad Cloth, the &c. and other sorry Woolen
§. 3. ‘ Manufacture of the *French* Nation, that I was almost
‘ tempted to believe, there were no Sheep in *France*, or
‘ that their Sheep did not bear Fleeces, or that the People
‘ did not know how to work up the Wool; so that let the
‘ Duties be ever so high in the Country, yet they would be
‘ obliged to buy our Woolen Manufactures. But of all
‘ Things in the World, I should not have suspected, that
Page 137. ‘ they would pretend to vie with us in other Markets, that
‘ they could have the least Hopes of carrying their *Bays* and
‘ *Perpetuanas*, with any Success into *Italy*, or that any of
‘ them could be sold there in the Presence of the *English*
‘ Manufactures.

‘ I was perfectly amazed, when I came to read over the
‘ above Edict of his most Christian Majesty. What!
‘ Merchants of *France* represent to their Prince, that they
‘ should be able to sell *Bays* and *Perpetuanas* in *Italy*, at as
‘ low a Price as the *English* Manufactures? And this too,
‘ without taking off the whole Duties of Exportation? Nay,
‘ tho’ 30 Sols per hundred Weight, should be still left upon
‘ these exported Manufactures?

‘ All the Duties of Exportation upon our Woolen Goods’,
Ch. 87. ‘ were taken off long before this Edict, and yet are we not
§. 16. ‘ able to sell our *Bays* and *Perpetuanas*, tho’ all the Duties
‘ are taken off, cheaper than the *French* Merchants, tho’ a
‘ Duty of 30 Sols per hundred Weight, be still left upon
‘ them. This was all the *French* Merchants desired, to enable
‘ them to cope with *England* in the *Italian* Markets, and
‘ the Prince has granted what was desired by his Subjects.

‘ If their *Bays* and *Perpetuanas* are as cheap, with a
‘ Duty of 30 Sols per hundred Weight, as ours without any
‘ Duty at all, what if his most Christian Majesty should re-
‘ mit even these 30 Sols? Why then we shall not be able
‘ to export either *Bays* or *Perpetuanas* to the same Market,
Page 138. ‘ without giving a Bounty at Exportation? as we do in the
‘ Case of Corn,

‘ The

‘ which they used to pay ; and the said Stuffs shall be exempted and discharged from paying the Duties of the Custom-House of Lyons, of Valence, of Bayonne, and from all other Duties, as Octrois, Peages, and Passages, which were levied to his Majesties Use, or to the Use of particular Lords, &c. without Prejudice nevertheless to the Transires granted upon the Merchandizes sold in the Fairs of Lyons, Bourdeaux, and Troyes.

Done at Fontainbleau, Oct. 23, 1703.

Signed, &c.

2. The Interest of Merchants ought not to be considered in Treaties of Commerce, so much as that of the Landholders and Manufacturers *.

3. I

‘ The King acknowledges, that the Trade of sending their own Bays and Perpetuanas to Italy, even when this Edict was made, was already advantageous to his Subjects. What then must we think was the Consequence of this Edict, and the discharging all those burdensome Octrois, Peages and Passages, besides Port Duties, and reducing the whole to 30 Sols per hundred Weight, not above one eightieth Part of their whole Value ? There is no doubt but their Exportations to Italy, if they were before so advantageous to the French Nation, must needs be very much increased.

‘ It is in vain for the Mercator to talk, as he often does, of the Quality of our English Manufactures, and their being so preferable to those of France. If the latter can be sold as cheap, it is plain that the Quality, as well as Quantity, is considered by the Buyer.

‘ He often calls the Woolen Manufacture, our Manufacture, our own Manufacture, as if Wool was not the Growth of any other Country, or as if the People of other Countries did not know how to work it up. And in a late Treatise, he has insisted upon the inimitable Spinners of England. This Edict is a full Confutation of these fine Doctrines ; they have Wool in France, they have Spinners in France ; so that besides supplying their own Country they are able to vie with us in foreign Markets. Page 139.

* ‘ Tho’ in Opposition to the Mercator, I set out with the Title of the British Merchant, yet the Interest of the Merchants, is the Thing that I have least of all considered, in my Reflections upon the late Treaty of Commerce, or upon the Bill for rendering that Treaty effectual. The Merchant may have a distinct Interest from that of his Country, he may thrive by a Trade which shall prove *per Ruis*.

3. I have ever considered the Authority of Persons as the lowest Kind of Proof *, and such as ought never to be credited against Demonstration or Probability.

4. The People of *Lyme*, without doubt, are very good Witnesses, that their DRAPERY, till the Year 1687, was imported into the PROVINCE of BRITANY, CUSTOM FREE †, Again, the People of *Lyme* are very good Witnesses,

* ‘ Upon this Occasion, I think myself obliged to present my Readers, with a Copy of a Representation of the Mayor, &c. of *Lyme Regis* (*viz.*)

‘ To the Honourable Commissioners of Trade,

‘ *The humble Representation and Petition of,* &c.

*A Petition
from the
Mayor of
Lyme, &c.*

Humbly Sheweth,

‘ That the Trade to *France* with the *Woolen Manufactures*, was an enriching Trade to this Nation, and was the best this Kingdom had for Employment of People, Shipping and Navigation; there having been Yearly, for several Years together, shipped in this Port for the PROVINCE of BRITANY in *France* in Drapery, to the Value of fifty thousand Pound Sterling and upwards; and that this Trade was enjoyed Time out of Mind, and DRAPERY was imported into the said PROVINCE, CUSTOM FREE, till the Year 1687; in which Year, the Importation of all Woolen Manufactures whatsoever was prohibited; and afterwards several great Duties were laid on all Goods and Commodities of the Growth, Product, or Manufacture of this Kingdom, by an Edict, a Copy whereof, truly translated from the Original, is herunto annexed. And we also crave Leave to acquaint your Honours, that a Month before the said Prohibition took Place, several great Quantities of Drapery, to the Value of two thousand Pounds and upwards, which had been imported into the said Province in two Ships from this Place, were seized and detained during all the last War, which were all spoiled.

Page 168.

‘ Your Petitioners therefore humbly pray, that in the ensuing Treaty of Peace, Care be taken to get the said Prohibition taken off, and that your Petitioners may be restored to the said Trade, and be at Liberty to import Drapery and other Goods and Commodities, of the Growth and Product of this Kingdom, Custom free, as formerly; and that the Owners of the said Drapery, so seized and spoiled, may have Satisfaction made for the same. And your Petitioners shall pray, &c.’

Page 169.

† ‘ *Britany* was formerly a free Province, and as no Customs were paid there, so there was the chief Consumption

nesses, that the *French* Prohibitions began in the Year 1687 †. Again, I believe the People of *Lyme*, when they tell us their own Goods were seized and spoiled. They may also, perhaps, be good Witnesses, that they formerly exported yearly to the Value of fifty Thousand Pounds in Woolen Manufactures ‡. But lastly, I can by no Means allow the Evidence of the good People of *Lyme*, when they tell us, that the Trade to *France* with the Woolen Manufactures was an enriching Trade to this Nation, and was the best that Part of the Kingdom had for Employment of People, Shipping, and Navigation. For do they conclude, that the whole Nation was enriched by the *French* Trade, because the single Town of *Lyme*, was enriched by exporting to *France*, the yearly Value of fifty Thousand Pounds in Woolen Manufacture? Does this prove, that the Balance of the whole *French* Trade was on the *English* Side, or that our Exports exceeded our Imports from that Country? And as for Shipping and Navigation, one single Ship was sufficient to carry at once, that whole Value * of Woolen Manufactures: So that if
great

* Consumption of our Woolen Manufactures. But as *Britany* now, by the Articles subsequent to the late Treaty, can have our Manufactures only by the Way of other Provinces, so she must receive them after they have paid the Customs from 30, to 50 per Cent. according to the Tariff of 1699.

† ' This was a Fact they could not but be well acquainted with, by their own feeling. Strange! that *France* should then prohibit our Woolen Manufactures, so soon after King *James* and his Parliament had obliged her, by taking off † Ch. 72. our aforementioned Prohibition! But this shews, as the §. 1. Note. Inspector General has said, that they have all along treated us, as if the Genius of *France* had got a perfect Ascendant over *England*.'

‡ ' Tho' I am afraid, they have at a Venture lump'd it at so great a Sum; for this would amount to almost a third Part, of all that ever were exported to *France* in one Year, from the whole Kingdom.'

* According to this Account, supposing *England* upon a Medium, to send out Woolen Manufacture Yearly, to the Value of 3,000,000 *l.* sixty Ships, at once, would carry it all; contrary to what we frequently read †, as if whole Fleets † See were commonly loaded therewith, and constantly employed Chap. 89. thereby. §. 15.

great Numbers of Ships were employed in the *French* Trade, they must have been employed to import upon us a great Overbalance of Wines and other Goods from that Nation, perhaps to the enriching the single Town of *Lyme*, but certainly to the impoverishing the whole Kingdom.

Page 176. 5. It is evident, says the Mercator, (N^o. 106.) the *Perpetuanas* made in *France*, have not been able to be sold so cheap as those of *England*, or else they are not so good as the *English*; how else comes it to pass, that we have such a Vent for ours, and that every Day at the *Custom-House*, we see vast Quantities of *Bays* and *Perpetuanas* *, entered both for *Spain* and *Italy*, whereas the *French* are at the Door? And could they undersell us, they can upon all Occasions, pour in their Goods before us, and with much less Expence, the Voyage from *Marsilles*

* ‘ In answer to this, I must affirm, that the *French* King for 60 Years past, has been encouraging the Woolen Manufactures in his Kingdom, and as his People succeeded therein, he increased the Duties on ours, that were imported into *France*. In 1654, the Customs on Cloth were raised to 30 Livres. In 1664, to 40. In 1667, to 80. Serges in Proportion, from 5 to 12.

‘ Under these Discouragements, our Exports decreased annually, except in *Britany*, where, as I have said, they were always Custom Free, till the Year 1687.

The French send more Perpets to Turkey than England does.

‘ Besides, about this Time, their *Perpets*, which both *France* and We call *Imperial Serges*, being brought to very great Perfection, they became our Rivals in foreign Markets in that Trade. To begin with that to *Turkey*, which has been always very justly a Favourite of this Nation; it is manifest, they export vast Quantities of *Perpets* to *Turkey* from *France*, in Comparison of those from *England*, and such as cannot chuse but disturb the Sale of our Goods in that Market: So that it is plain, we have almost lost the Trade of *Perpets* to that Country.

‘ Our last Fleet, which will be allowed to export the Bulk of our Goods for one Year to *Turkey*, yet exported no more than 400 *Perpets*, which cannot exceed 16 or 18 Bales. But I have also seen an Account of the *Perpets* exported from *France*, for the Years 1711 and 1712, to the Port of *Smyrna* only, in which the Bales were 400; that is, 200 Bales per Annum.

Page 178. ‘ Will the Mercator say now, that they do not rival us in our Trade of *Perpets* to *Turkey*?’

sailes to the Coast, either of *Italy* or *Spain*, being not above two or three Days Sail.

6. But says the *Mercator*, the *French King's* raising his Customs and laying his Prohibitions, is an Argument of the *French Trade* being beneficial to *England*, and that this was only done to prevent his own Subjects being impoverished, and *England* enriched at their Expence*.

7. How

* ' But this Writer must be told, that he might do this, that the Trade which was before carried on to the Advantage of *France*, and Disadvantage of *England*, might be rendered still more beneficial to *France*, and more ruinous to *England*.

' The *Mercator* supposes the *French King* would not be the Aggressor, lest we should have retaliated upon him. Page 181.

' But besides that *France*, as observed before, has all along treated us, as if the Genius of that Nation had got a perpetual Ascendant over that of *ENGLAND*, I must tell the *Mercator*, that that wise Prince had generally known how much his Neighbours would endure, before they would be provoked to retaliate; and besides, there are Ways and Means to keep off this Retaliation. The Pensions in the Reign of Ch. II. are too notorious to be forgotten. Page 182.

' It will not otherwise be easy to account, why it was so hard to obtain the prohibiting Act in that Reign, and why in 1678, there was no other Way of coming at it, than by tacking it to a Capitation*.

* Ch. 62.

The Advantage gained to *England* in Consequence of the abovementioned Prohibition in 1678, the *British Merchant* sums up as follows, viz. Instead of Brandy from *France*, saved in Malt Spirits made at home, ———— l. s. d. Note.

home, ————	60,000	0	0
Instead of Linen from <i>France</i> , <i>Irish Linen</i> , ————	80,000	0	0
This Manufacture increased in <i>Lancashire</i> and <i>Cheeshire</i> , ————	240,000	0	0
In <i>Dorsetshire</i> and <i>Somersetshire</i> , ————	100,000	0	0
Instead of Silks from <i>France</i> , the same made at home, viz. (being entirely a new Manufacture) black Silks, ————	300,000	0	0
Silks for Linings, ————	150,000	0	0
Silk Handkerchiefs ————	200,000	0	0

Total 1,110,000 0 0

Besides Paper, a new Manufacture of Consequence, and Hats, &c.

N. B.

7. How many are there of our *Turky Merchants*, who remember the Time when the *French Imports* into the Grand Seignior's Dominions, did not exceed 2 to 300 Cloths *per Annum*. whereas now the Value of their Woolen Goods imported annually thither, is greater than what ours, for several Years past, at a Medium, have amounted to?

8. But let what will happen, the *Mercator* assures us (N^o. 162.) that our Woolen Manufactures must still be safe: *All other Countries* want the necessary Material, they want the WOOL *; and let us but secure and keep our WOOL.

† See .

Chap. 44.

§. 8.

§ Ch. 139.

N. B. We should compare this with Mr. Fortry', 1663, and consider also how much all these are improved since 1713, and what other new ones * have been erected with Success, before we indulge too much our Melancholy, and Complaints, of an imaginary Decay of Trade and Manufacture in this Kingdom, from the single View of France and some other Countries, having given into the Woolen Trade as they certainly have done. If to this we add, that England has also rather increased, than gone back in its Exportations, even of Woolen Manufacture (as will appear, Ch. 176. §. 40. P. S.) that is a plain Demonstration, that the Manufacturers in general, and those of WOOL in particular, have had no just Cause of Complaint, unless the HOME CONSUMPTION has abated, which may possibly be somewhat the Case, as to Woolen Manufacture, in Consequence, among other Reasons, of the WOOL Grower having suffered for a Number of Years together in the Price of his Wool. For what these Men do not receive, they cannot possibly pay or expend; and it is easy to conceive, that a Defalcation in the first Instance of 40 or 50 per Cent. in so considerable a Part of the Produce of the Kingdom, as Wool is, (the annual Amount whereof has been heretofore reckoned, at TWO MILLIONS) must make an extraordinary Difference in home Consumption, which the British Merchant justly styles the best Market for the Product and Manufactures of our native Country.

Wool in

other Coun-

tries than

ours, par-

ticularly in

France.

* ' No WOOL in any other Country! I must confess I thought I never should have heard more of this Subject, after I had so often appealed to the Gentlemen, both within and without Doors, who have travelled into other Countries, that they eat Mutton abroad, as much and as good as they do in England, and that their Sheep there, wear Fleeces, and not Dog's Hair; after I had appealed so often to the Testimony of our Woolen Manufacturers, who

Wool at home, all other Nations must buy from us.

CHAP.

‘ who every Day give a much greater Price for *Spanish*
 ‘ Wool, than the very best that grows in *England*; after I
 ‘ had appealed to the Testimony of the famous Monsieur
 ‘ *de Wit*, for the vast Value of Woolen Yarn, that was
 ‘ annually spun in *Picardy*, a single Province in *France*, and
 ‘ sold to the *Hollanders*; after I had produced the Testi-
 ‘ mony of Mr. *Mun*^h, in the Reign of King *Charles II.* Ch. 45.
 ‘ THAT OTHER NATIONS NEITHER WANTED ART NOR §. 2.
 ‘ MATERIALS FOR THIS PERFORMANCE; after all these
 ‘ Evidences, and without the least Answer given to any of
 ‘ them, to be still pestered with the *Want of Wool* in
 ‘ other Countries, shews, THE MIRACULOUS CONFIDENCE
 ‘ OF THE MERCATOR.
 ‘ Certainly the Woolen Manufacture is not so new a Page 382.
 ‘ Thing, nor so confined to *England*. I do not know any
 ‘ Evidence of the *English* Woolen Manufacture in the Days
 ‘ of *Tiberius Caesar*; yet *Strabo*, who lived at that Time,
 ‘ when he speaks of *Turtedania* (which at most is but a
 ‘ Part of *Portugal*) and her Traffick, says, that *frequens*
 ‘ *inde primum vestis veniebat, nunc vero Coraxorum amplius*
 ‘ *Lanificium, excellentissime Pulchritudinis, unde admiffarij*
 ‘ *Arietes talento emantur.* Cloths, says he, were heretofore
 ‘ the Exports of that Country [*Turtedania*, or a Part of
 ‘ *Portugal*] but now a more noble Woolen Manufacture of
 ‘ excellent Beauty, such as that of the *Coraxi*; whence
 ‘ Rams are bought for Breed at the Price of a Talent. A
 ‘ Talent, above an hundred Pounds¹ of our Money, the¹ An Attick
 ‘ Price of a single Ram to propagate this fine Woolen Ma- Talent
 ‘ nufacture! Surely this was very fine. The *Coraxi* were was 187 l.
 ‘ a People in *Asia*; and was their Woolen Manufacture so 10s. See
 ‘ very fine, that *Strabo* could not better commend that of Notes to a
 ‘ *Portugal*, than by comparing it with that of the *Coraxi*? Transla-
 ‘ And yet the Mercator will tell us, there is no Woolen tion from
 ‘ Manufacture but in *England*. Xeno-
 ‘ It was very lately, that I was forced by him to look phon. By
 ‘ into a *Spanish* Book of Customs paid in *Castile* on foreign W. M.
 ‘ Goods; there I found, that the Customs were the same Esq; 1697.
 ‘ on the *Bays of Barcelona*^h, as on those that are made in Bays made
 ‘ *England*. How! *Barcelona* able to sell her *Bays* in *Spain* at Barce-
 ‘ under as heavy a Load of Duties, as those that are made Iona.
 ‘ in *England*; yet, no doubt, the Mercator will say, that² See
 ‘ *Bays* cannot be made in any Part of the World but at Chap. 85.
 ‘ *Calcester*. §. 7. Note.
 ‘ I have this very Moment a *Marseilles Price Courant* for
 ‘ the seventh of *November* in my Hand, and there I see the
 ‘ Vol. II. I Wool

C H A P. CIV.

The British Merchant, 1713.

A Letter from a Clothier, in Reference to the Bill of Commerce with France, and to the Peace of Utrecht in general.

Impositions on our People at the Cessation of Arms. I Will allow, that upon the Cessation of Arms between Us and *France*, and on the positive Assertions that were then made, how advantageous the *Treaty of Commerce*, to be settled between the two Kingdoms, would be to our Trade, a mighty Expectation was raised here, that we should have the most flourishing Trade imaginable; and with very good Reason; for who could expect, that any Thing very advantageous for the Commerce of *France*, should be insisted upon by a conquered Enemy, whose Interest it was to court us? Or on the other Hand, that any Thing highly prejudicial to our Trade, should be yielded in a Treaty with *France*, when we could have imposed on her what Terms we pleased? Therefore the *Mercator* may be in the right, in saying, that the Price of our Goods was raised, when the News was spread about the Kingdom, that the *French Trade* would be opened; and yet his Conclusion from thence (*viz.* that the Fall thereof was occasioned by rejecting the eighth and ninth Article) very false: For every one must remember, that before the *Treaty of Commerce* was printed, it was INDUSTRIOUSLY spread through the Nation, how great Advantages were obtained for the Trade of *England*, and particularly, that Care had been taken, that all the *Prohibitions* and *high Duties* laid on the

Several Sorts of Wool at Marseilles. ' Wool of *Castile*, *Arragon*, *Albarfin*, *Barbary* *, and *Constantinople*, all of different Prices †, and the very lowest above the Price of *English Wool*, but no *English Wool* at all in that *Price Courant*; yet, no doubt, this Man will tell us, that *English Wool* is the best and dearest in the World, though every *English Woolen Manufacturer* will tell him quite the contrary.

Wool Cards to Barbary. * In the *London Bill of Exports*, March 8, 1743, was this Article, *viz.* 100 Dzen of *Wool Cards* to *Barbary*.

† It is a Pity the *British Merchant* did not say what these Prices were.

the Woolen Manufactures in *France*, should be taken off; and this with such Assurance, and from Persons who, 'twas thought, might be depended upon, that the People generally believed it, and were not only induced publickly to express their Satisfaction with what they knew nothing of, but did really think, that the Woolen Manufactures they had by them, would soon find a very great Vent, and thereupon immediately heighten the Prices thereof, as also that of Wool, as well in Expectation of finding what they were told of the *French Trade*, true, as upon the Belief they had, that the Treaty of Commerce with *Spain* would soon be signed; in which 'twas hoped, as they had reason to believe, from the Necessity that Monarch seemed to be in of our Assistance, that no Article could possibly be proposed to him in Favour of our Commerce, but what would meet with his ready Compliance; and that therefore our Trade must, at least, be as beneficial with that Kingdom, as it had formerly been, notwithstanding that Monarchy was now in the Hands of a Prince of the House of Bourbon.

2. But no sooner was the Treaty of Commerce with *France* made publick, and thoroughly considered, but they quickly found their Mistake with Relation to that Trade; for in that Treaty, they plainly found, that the Duties on some Woolen Goods were settled according to the excessive Rates imposed by the Tariff of 1699; and that the Articles and Specifications were so ambiguously worded, as to put it very much in doubt, whether the rest were to be admitted at all, or after what Manner they were to pay.

3. They also found to their Cost in a little Time, by some Goods sent to *Cadiz*, that the Expectation they had conceived of a vast Trade to *Spain*, was groundless; that the Fashions in that Country were extremely altered, since that Monarchy had been under the Influence of *French* Counsels; that the little Demand for our Goods in *Spain*, proceeded from the Alterations in their Apparel to the *French* Modes and Manufactures; and the Treaty of Commerce with that Crown, since published, has shewn us, we are in no wise to depend upon any considerable Trade hereafter.

4. When therefore, upon a due Examination of the Treaty of Commerce with *France*, it was found impracticable,

practicable, upon the Foot of that Treaty's being rendered effectual, to send *any great Quantities* of Woollen Goods thither, by Reason of the excessive high Duties, that would still remain to be paid by the Tariffs of 1664, and 1699; as also by their being expressly subjected to *Visitations*

Visitations in *France*, whereby they might be confiscated upon the *the Nature* slightest Pretences in the World, if they were found either in Length, Breadth, Weight, Fineness, or any other *and Reason* of them.

Way, different from the like Sorts made there: (For those Rules of *Visitations* could be insisted on by *France*, for Page 392. no other Intent, but to have a Handle to plague, and to prevent our Importation.)

5. Upon these Considerations, it was not possible, but that the Price of Wool, and of Manufactures made thereof, must again fall as fast as it rose, and that what was raised purely upon Force of *Expectation*, and without any solid Ground, must sink again, when that ill-grounded Rise came to be perceived.

A French Prince not so like to encourage our Trade to Spain as an Austrian Prince. 6. But the Case was far otherwise after the Peace of *Ryswick*; for though we sent but few Woollen Goods to *France*, during that Peace, yet an *Austrian Prince* being then upon the Throne of *Spain*, who was more desirous of encouraging our Trade than that of *France*; and the Demand for our Woollen Goods was then so great in *Spain*, the War, which had raised Freights and Premiums of Insurance to an extravagant Height, being ended, what was saved on those two Accounts, came to be added

Colchester Bays rose in Spain after the Treaty of Ryswick. to the Price of the Manufactures, which *gradually* advanced by that continued Demand, whereof I will give an Instance in the Article of *Colchester Bays*, which, at the Time of the making of the Peace at *Ryswick*, were at about 17 *d. per Ell*, but rose to about 23 *d.* and 23 *d. ½ per Ell*, and continued about that Price, till a Stop was put to our Trade thither.

Page 393. 7. Another Reason that may be assigned for the sudden Fall of the Woollen Manufactures, from the Prices to which Manufacturers and Dealers therein had raised them, upon the Prospect of the *Utrecht* Peace, is, that most of our Merchants never knew what the Duties that were to be paid in *France* by the Tariff, said to be granted to us, and which they were told was so advantageous for our Woollen Manufactures, would amount to; but when they found what Duties would be payable, supposing

sing the Treaty took Effect, and that they were tantamount to a Prohibition, and their Correspondents could give them no manner of Encouragement to send any thither, they plainly saw that it was impossible to answer the Expectation of the Manufacturers here.

8. This being the Case of our Woolen Manufactures, *Our Trade* in respect to *France*, it were to be wished, that our *in Spain* Treaty of Commerce with *Spain*, would befriend them *lessened by* more than with *France*; but you have shewn, that no *high Duties* Good can be expected from it as it is; but that we are *on them,* saddled with much higher Duties than ever we paid before *and the* in that Country. But besides, the Mode in *Spain* is so *Spaniards* much altered, and the Fashion of wearing *Bays*, and *following* other *English* Woolen Goods, so very much changed into *the French* that of *French* Druggets and fine Stuffs; and those that will not alter their Manner, being furnished by the Way of *Alicant*, and other Ports of *Spain* in the *Mediterranean*, with *Bays* and *Perpetuanas*, &c. from *Castres*, and other Places in the Province of *Languedoc* *, which is very near them; and since there are such other Discouragements to our Woolen Manufactures, both in *France* and *Spain*, it plainly appears, that it is wholly owing to the Trade we have preserved with other Nations, that our Woolen Goods are not reduced a great deal lower than they are, and that nothing but *keeping the Trade to and from France upon the present Foot of high Duties*, the preventing the † *clandestine Exportation of*

I 3

OUR

* In which Manufacturies, in those Southern Parts of *France*, it is not so much as pretended, that any *English*, or *Irish* Wool is used.

† Tho' this may be thought to come naturally enough from a *Clothier*, the supposed Author of this Letter. Yet, as it must be accounted to convey the Sentiments of the Society engaged in writing the *British Merchant*, so it is not easy to be reconciled with the good Sense of that Society, or made consistent with what they have already said, to convince us, that Wool is far from being the *peculiar Produce* of these Kingdoms, and that *other Nations* want neither the *Art* of manufacturing, nor yet the *MATERIAL* from whence to make *Cloth*, &c. And therefore I should here turn an Argument of the *British Merchant* against himself, viz. *that the Authority of Persons is no Proof against Demonstration* ¹, or *Probability*; but that I consider this only as a Sen-¹ Ch. 103.
tence §. 3.

OUR WOOL, and the obtaining an Alteration of several Things in our Treaty of Commerce with *Spain*, can prevent the total Ruin of the Woolen Manufactures in this Kingdom.

C H A P. CV.

The British Merchant, 1713.

The French and Others can support their Manufactures without the Help of any English or Irish Wool.

Page 395. 1. **T**O preserve and encourage the Consumption of our Woolen Manufacture at home and abroad, is the common Concern of every Man that delights in the Welfare and Prosperity of his Country.

Page 396. 2. 'Tis true indeed, Providence has furnished us with better and more useful Wool, than most of our Neighbours, and our Industry has brought our Manufactures to the greatest Perfection. But can these be said to be secure to us, whilst (as I have formerly mentioned) we know that other Nations neither want ART nor MATERIALS, for this Performance.

3. Is it not certain, that the *Venetians* have still a noble Manufacture of Cloth, with which *Italy* and *Turkey* were formerly supplied in Abundance? Did not the *Jews* and *Greeks* at *Salonica*, and in the Country thereabouts, seventy Years past, set up a Manufacture of coarse Woolen Cloth, which entirely beat out our *Kersies*, then vended in great Quantities in *Turkey*, and which has ever since proved prejudicial to the Consumption of our ordinary Cloth in that Empire? Nay, have not the *Turks* of late Years, upon the Encouragement of two *Viziers*, twice attempted this Manufacture? And though under their Conduct, Manufactures can never flourish, yet they made

*Woolen
Manufac-
ture at
Salonica,
its Conse-
quences.*

Page 377.

tence thrown in, to please certain Persons, whom they were willing to attach on their Side, and that therefore it is couched under the equivocal Term, *clandestine* Exportation; a Thing to be sure highly fit to be prevented, but which the Generality do easily confound with the supposed Expedience and Necessity of Laws, *absolutely prohibitory in this Case.*

made several Cloths, which were esteemed of equal Value with ours, from 6 to 8*l.* per Cloth, white. And in *Silesia* and *Poland*, have they not their Woolen Manufactures? And did they not attempt, but two or three Years past, to supply the *Czar* with Woolen Cloth for the Use of his Army?

4. And since the *Mercator* has but crude Notions of the *French* Trade, and possibly is not acquainted with the Methods they take to supply themselves with Wool from several other Countries, besides *Great Britain* and *Ireland*; I will endeavour to set him to Rights in the following Particulars.

5. And first, I will tell him, that *France* has *Abundance* of Wool of its own Growth, which always served for many ordinary Manufactures. That of late Years, by the Encouragement they have given to foreign Manufacturers, they have learned to make the most of this and all their Wool. And the *French* King, some Years past, caused a great Part of his Kingdom to be surveyed; and those waste Grounds which were found proper for the Improvement of Wool, were turned into SHEEP WALKS, whereby they reap no small Advantage. To these I shall add, the great Supplies they import from many Parts.

6. From *Turkey* they bring vast Quantities of the middling and ordinary Sorts of Wool; and having lately engrossed all they could procure in those Parts, they have this Year advanced the Price thereof, 150 per Cent.

7. From the Gulph of *Volo*, and the Country thereabouts in *Greece*, they constantly import several Sorts of Wool equal to ours from 7 to 9*l.* per Pack.

8. They have also large Parcels of inferior Sorts from divers Places in *Barbary*.

9. The *Portugal* Wool is now shared between them and the *Dutch*; the best whereof will make Cloth 6 and 7*s.* per $\frac{1}{2}$ Yard.

10. And

† The *British* Merchant seems not to have had the best Information concerning the Wool of *Portugal*; which, whether we judge of it from the Price thereof at *Amsterdam*, or from what is said of it in the *Dictionnaire Universel du Commerce*, is much better than here represented. See also what he himself has said of *Portugal* Wool.

10. And from *Bilboa* it's advised, under the 27th of April last, that in eight Months before that Time, the French had sent out of *Spain* into *France* 24000 || Bags of *Wool* of all Sorts, and besides they had contracted for most of the best Piles of new shorn *Wool*.

Page 404. 11. Certainly therefore it is high Time to look about us. The only Way is, to promote and encourage our Exportation to those Countries that trade with us to Advantage, and also to exert ourselves vigorously in putting

• Ch. 104. an entire Stop to the *running of our Wool* °.

§. 8. Note. 12. In this I shall never believe we are in Earnest, until, 1. we are obliged to keep a *general Register of The Way our Wool*. 2. That severe Penalties be inflicted on those that transgress the Laws. 3. That suitable Encouragement be given to the Informers and Seizers. 4. That a very easy Method be assigned to recover the Seizures and Forfeitures, without Cost or Delay. That Men of Probity and Capacity, well versed in Trade, are entrusted with, and appointed to attend this important

• Ch. 69.

§ 1.

Page 420.

Great Britain receive no Prejudice.—But after all, this will not do the Business †, THEY [the French] can be in NO WANT of WOOL ‡, tho' they should not be supplied with any from this Nation.

13. Yes, says the *Mercator* (Nº. 168.) they may have *Spanish Wool* for fine Cloth, fine Druggets; but what is that to the Gross of our Woolen Manufacture?

One

|| Which is about as much in two Thirds of *one Year*, as the *English* have been used to take from *Spain* in *five Years* °.

• Ch. 109.

* No matter it seems for the WOOL GROWER; as if his Interest was of no Consequence, or that it necessarily followed from an enlarged Woolen Exportation Trade. This latter, I believe, is generally taken for granted; and tho'

• Ch. 176. it is no unnatural Supposition, yet we shall shew when it has been far otherwise.

P. S.

† Then, I ask, what Business will it do?

‡ Admitting thus much to be true (which is very nearly at least demonstrable) I ask any rational Person, what is to be inferred from it, as touching the NECESSITY and the USE, not only of prohibitory Laws in this Case, under the Sanction of severe Penalties, but of a *general Register of Wool*, in order to confine it certainly within the Kingdom?

Ch. 105. *Memoirs of Wool, &c.* 137

One Point then I have gained, that there can be no Want of *fine Wool* in *France*.

I must inform him now, that they can have sufficient *How coarse Wool*, either to mix with their fine, or to make *France* those other Manufactures, *without coming into Eng- may be furnished land.*

I have shewn often, that they have a good deal of *with their own*; and if they had not, they could be supplied *coarse as well as* also with this from *Spain and Portugal.* *fine Wool.*

14. We take from *Spain*, only the fine *Segovia Wool*, *Page 430.* which is sorted into *Fine, Seconds, and Thirds.* But the *We buy Spanish* have several others Sorts, such as *Wool of Castile, only the Arragon,* and other finer Sorts, from five Pence half- *Spanish* penny to six Pence *per lib, ||*, which after being picked *fine Segovia Wool.* and cleansed, is worth, from six Pence to ten Pence *per lib.* and answers all the Uses of *English Wool.* We buy only the fine *Segovia Wool*; but the *French*, great Quantities of all their other Sorts. The *Portugal Wool* runs higher than the ordinary Sort of *Spain.* So that *France*, without coming to us, cannot want Wool for any Part of the *Woolen Manufacture.*

C H A P.

¶ Here again, the *British Merchant* is very much misinformed: Or perhaps it was not judged so convenient, to acquaint the *Country Gentlemen of England*, with the real Price of those middle and inferior *Spanish Wools*; because to these, some of the *English Wools* (as those of *Cotswold* and the *Ile of Wight, &c.*) are accounted to be equivalent; and being so accounted of (which is the more likely to be true, because none but the fine *Spanish Wools* are imported) the *Gentlemen of England* would be apt to expect, that their better *English Wools*, which are so deemed equivalent to middle and inferior *Spanish Wools*, should afford nearly an equal Price, in *England*, to what the said *Spanish Wools* are sold for, at *Amsterdam* for Instance; whereas the Difference, we shall shew, is very considerable.

Ch. 171,
172.

C H A P. CVI.

*The British Merchant, 1713.**The Trade of Portugal considered.*Vol. 3.
p. 18.*What
Goods the
Portu-
guese pro-
hibited.*

1. **T**HE Gentleman who spoke before the House of Commons, on the Behalf of the *Portugal Trade*, acquainted the House, *That Portugal had not only prohibited all Sorts of English Cloth and Hats*, but observing we introduced *KERSIES* and *CLOTH SERGES*, and *CLOTH DRUGGETS*, these they also prohibited; *that this Prohibition continued twenty Years, except, that a Permission was granted for the Importation of black Cloth, and Hats* *.

Page 24.

*The great
Advances of
our Trade
by the
Portugal
Treaty.*

2. By an Account of the Exports of Woolen Manufactures to *Portugal*, before the *TREATY* of 1703, subscribed, *Cha. Davenant*, and laid before the House of Commons, there is no Room to believe, that our whole Exports of those Goods to that Nation, exceeded 350,000 *l. per Ann.* and probably not 70,000 *l. per Ann.* of all other Goods. But it was affirmed before the House of Commons by the Gentleman mentioned above; that our Exports to *Portugal*, since that Treaty, have amounted to 1,300,000 *l. per Ann.*

Page 71.

3. The *Mercator* alledges, *That as we have increased since that Treaty † in the Exportation of Woolen Cloths* to

*During the
Prohibition we
brought
thence no
Gold or
Silver;
since, both
in great
Quan-
tities.*

* ‘ He also acquainted the House, that during the twenty Years † Prohibition, the *Portuguese* succeeded so well in their Woolen Manufactures, that we brought thence no Gold or Silver; but after the taking off that Prohibition, we brought away so much of their Silver, as to leave them very little for their necessary Occasions, and then we began to bring away their Gold.’

† See Ch. 66. §. 20. Note. *By which it appears, that English Cloth had been prohibited in Portugal, from the Year 1660. (See Chap. 107. §. 1. Note.)*

‡ ‘ The Treaty was in *October* 1703, for taking off the Prohibition of our Woolen Cloths, and for obliging the King of *Portugal* never to prohibit for the Time to come, either

to *Portugal*, we have decreased in the Exportation of our other Woollen Manufactures.

C H A P.

‘ either our Woollen Cloths, or any of the rest of our Woollen Manufactures. The *Mercator* therefore has singled out the Year preceding, and that which followed the Treaty, to shew us how much our Exportations of double Bays, Perpets, Serges, Stuffs, Druggets, and Says, exceeded the Exportation of the like Goods, after the Admission of our Woollen Cloths into *Portugal*; and consequently how little we got by taking off the aforementioned Prohibition.

‘ This was the Argument of his N^o. 119; but then in his very next Paper, he has given us another Scrap from his Entries, which demonstrates that our Exportation of double Bays, Perpets, Serges, Stuffs, Druggets and Says, has been as great since the Treaty, as it was before; so that we have not decreased in the Exportation of those Goods, by getting off the Prohibition from our Woollen Cloths, and that consequently the whole Exportation of Woollen Cloths is so much gained by the Treaty.

‘ The *Mercator*’s grand Argument against the Advantage this Nation has received by the Treaty with *Portugal* in 1703, is, *That tho’ we exported in 1704, the Year after the Treaty, Cloths 10493 more than in 1702, the Year before the Treaty, yet the Consequence of this was, the lessening the Exportation of our Perpets, Serges, Stuffs, Druggets,* Page 73. *for that there were shipped for Portugal in 1702, more than in 1704.*

7281 double Bays,

153,279 lib. Weight in Perpets and Serges,

161,247 lib. Weight in Stuffs, Druggets and Says.

‘ And in 1704 more than in 1702.

2130 Minikin Bays,

274 single Bays,

30939 Dozen Pair of Hose, besides Kerseys, Hats, &c. Spain

‘ In answer to this irresistible Argument, I must first *supplied by* remind the *Mercator*, that in 1702, the very Year the *Way of*

‘ War was declared with *Spain*, while *Portugal* stood *Lisbon*.

‘ *neuter*, we endeavoured to supply *Spain* by the *Way of*

‘ *Lisbon*, not only with Bays, but with Perpets, Serges,

‘ *Druggets* and several other Commodities; and therefore

‘ this was the real Occasion of such a large Exportation for

‘ *Portugal* in that Year.

‘ Every Merchant on the Exchange, is so well acquainted

‘ with that Fact; that it is strange the *Mercator* should so

‘ openly expose himself to the Charge of Partiality; for of

‘ this he could not be ignorant.

C H A P. CVII.

The British Merchant, 1713.

The Progress of the Woolen Manufacture in Portugal, from the Commencement of it in 1684, to the Destruction of it in 1703, by Mr. Methuen's Treaty. And that our whole Exportation of Woolen Manufactures to Portugal, depends on that Treaty.

1. **I**N the Year 1681, one *Courteen*, an *Irishman*, a Servant in the Family of the Queen of *England*, afterwards *Queen Dowager*, carried over several Clothiers and Bays-makers into *Portugal*, where they presently set up the Manufactures both of Cloth and Bays, particularly at *Port Alegre* and *Covillhan*. It was soon found, that their Wool was too short for Bays, therefore their Bays-makers were soon dismissed. But they proceeded in the Manufacture of Cloth, and soon brought it to such Perfection, that in 1684, either in *June* or *July*, upon the *Conde d' Ericera's* Project to increase their Exportations, and lessen the Consumption of foreign Manufactures, as well as to encourage their own, the King of *Portugal* made a sumptuary Law, to restrain several Excesses in his Kingdom, and among the rest, the Importation of *all foreign* † Cloths was prohibited.

2. Upon this, the foreign Merchants in that Country made several Remonstrances, but could by no Means obtain, that the Prohibition should be set aside; yet they gained a Year's Time to bring in those that were on the Way, but were obliged to re-ship whatsoever should arrive after the Time limited.

3. The

† *N. B.* The Author of *Britannia Languens*, who wrote Ch. 66. in the Year 1680, speaks of *English Cloth* as having been §.20. *Note.* then prohibited in *Portugal* from the Year 1660. But, from what we read (Ch. 106. §. 1.) it seems as if that Prohibition had been some Way or other evaded, or connived at, till the Year 1684, when the Importation of *all foreign Cloths* was prohibited.

3. The Mercator (N^o. 125.) has given a prodigious Page 83.
Exportation for that Year 1684, especially of Woolen Cloths; which, by this, is very well accounted for; a License to import for one Year, when for ever after they were to stand prohibited, might very well give Occasion to that vast Exportation. It was an Exportation, indeed, of but one Year, but it was to supply that Country for many Years to come.

4. The *Portuguese* soon became so expert in the Manufacture of Woolen Cloths, that they sent home our *English* Clothiers, in a distressed Condition; and the *Renagadoes* were forced for some Time to beg their Bread. But the *Portuguese*, as I have said, went on successfully; their Manufacture of Woolen Cloths increased and *Brazil* to that Degree, that both *Portugal* and *Brazil* were supplied by wholly supplied from their own Fabricks, and the Materials of this Manufacture were, their own, and *Spanish* Fabricks. *Other Nations* have Wool, and no other; so that the *Mercator* may know that other Nations have Wool as well as *Great Britain* and *Ireland*; and 'tis but cheating ourselves, to fancy that all the Materials for Woolen Cloths are of our own Growth: For I am afraid, *Portugal*, as well as *Spain*, has better Wool than ever grew in *England*.

5. To make ourselves some amends, and to evade the ill Consequences of this Prohibition of our Woolen Cloths, we presently introduced into *Portugal*, in their stead, Cloth Serges, and Cloth Druggets; against which their Fabrick of Cloth, which was then but in its Infancy, would have been as unable to contend, as against a free Importation of our Woolen Cloths. Therefore, that their own Cloth might have no such Thing as a Rival in their own Country, they proceeded to Druggets. This happened in about one Year after the first Prohibition.

6. I appeal to every Person that has lived in *Portugal*, from the Year 1683, to 1703, during the Time of the Prohibition, whether *Portugal* did not make Cloth enough for herself and *Brazil*? I am sure, that every Man, of Honesty and Experience, must acknowledge this.

7. The *Mercator* often makes us the Compliment of the Woolen Manufacture, and calls it OUR WOOL, OUR Manufacture, OUR WOOLEN MANUFACTURE, as if there were no such Thing in the World, but in *Great Britain*.

Other Nations have Materials for Cloth, as well as we. But the very Moment I am writing, I have Mr. Mun's Treatise printed in 1664, lying open before me, and p. 19, I read the following Words, WE KNOW THAT OTHER NATIONS NEITHER WANT ART NOR MATERIALS FOR THIS PERFORMANCE.

8. For my own Part, I know very well, that *Wool* is the Growth of other Countries as well as *England*; and in some Countries in much more Perfection than in *England*; and they have Dying Goods too for perfecting their Manufactures, which are wanting here. So that I never hear of an Attempt in any Place to set on Foot the Woolen Manufacture, but it gives me a Fit of Trembling * for my native Country. And we see by this Attempt of the *Portuguese*, that in a very few Years Time, they were able to forbear Yearly, an hundred thousand Pounds Value of our Woolen Cloths.

The Portuguese Fabrick prevented 100,000 l. Value of our English Cloths per Ann.

9. This

* But why this Panic, except (as the Law stands) for the *British Wool Grower*? Can *Great Britain* expect (what is not to be expected) to carry on Trade, as Mr. *Huet* calls it *, after a new and unheard-of Method; vainly imagining, as once the *French* (he tells you) did, to sell their Produce and Manufacture, without buying any? 'A fine Scheme (says he) only altogether impracticable'

* Ch. 94.
§: 17.

In short, are other Nations undone, because *Great Britain* has set up Manufactures not practised heretofore in the Kingdom? Or is it not a Thing to be looked for, that many other Countries should be as ready to take up Woolen Manufacture, as *Great Britain* has been to erect, perhaps, every other Manufacture * that can be named? And what has *Great Britain* to do in that Case, but to persist in giving Encouragement to ALL *useful Manufactures*, and, for the rest, to regulate its Imports by its Exports?

* Ch. 139.

But Note, the Premises considered, I should not think it very good Policy, to prohibit absolutely the Exportation of WOOL, especially since by our Author's own Confession, in this very Place, WOOL is the Growth of other Countries as well as ENGLAND, &c. And therefore, for *Great Britain* to give into all other Manufactures, and to allow of the free Importation of all foreign Wools, and at the same Time to forbid absolutely the Exportation of ANY British Wools upon any Terms whatsoever, is, between the Buyers, and the Growers and Sellers of that Commodity, using divers Measures; which the *Wise-man* † condemns equally as divers Weights, and says, they are alike an Abomination.

† Prov.
Ch. xx.
ver. 10.

9. This was their first Essay. But can we be so very fond as to think they would have stopp'd here? or that they would not have proceeded afterwards to other Parts of the Manufacture? They would have gone on from Cloth to Druggets, from Druggets to Serges, and so to other Things, 'till, one after another, at last all foreign Goods had been prohibited.

Page 88.
Which would have led them to other Manufactures.

10. Perhaps it may be objected, and very justly, the Staple of the Wool in *Portugal*, is not of sufficient Length for Bays, and several other Parts of the Woollen Manufactures. But can we be sure that this Defect might not have been cured in Time, by removing their Sheep into the richest Pasture? However, at the worst, if they had not been able to come up to the Perfection of *England*, yet they might resolve to be contented with their own, to save an Expence of so many hundred thousand Pounds per Ann.

Shortness of their Wool might have been cured by their rich Pastures.

11. The *Mercator* would persuade us, that the *Portugal* Trade is not so very necessary to *England*, as the *English* Manufactures are to *Portugal*; and that the very Prohibition of them were enough to raise a Rebellion there, against the Government; to cause a Revolt of the People from the Prince. This is the Doctrine of his Remon-
N^o. 121. Was there any Danger of a Revolt upon the Prohibition of 1684? Yet that Court was pestered with Remonstrances from their Manufacturers, when the Prohibition was taken off pursuant to Mr. *Methuen's* Treaty. But the Thing was past, the Treaty was ratified, and their Loomes were all ruined.

Remonstrances in Portugal on Mr. Methuen's Treaty.

12. Mr. *Methuen's* Treaty, by taking off the Prohibition of *British* Cloths, and by providing, that neither these, nor any of the *British* Woollen Manufactures in *Portugal*, should hereafter be prohibited, was the immediate Ruin of all the Fabricks in that Country, and opened to us a Market, by the *Mercator's* own shewing, for above 10,000 of our Cloths, above the Value of 100,000*l.* per Ann. And I believe, when some of the last Year's Entries shall be given in from the *Custom-House*, it will appear that our whole Exports of Woollen Manufactures to *Portugal*, amount now to 5 or 600,000*l.* per Annum*.

Page 89.
Page 90.

C H A P.

* I cannot but remark here, that according to this Representation of the *British Merchant*, it seems as if the King of

of *Portugal* had done an extreme foolish Thing for his own People, in ratifying this Treaty of Commerce with *England*. Whereas I rather think it was a wise one on his Part, as well as greatly advantageous to *England*, altho' the Manufacturers in *Portugal* did remonstrate against it, and altho' *England* was much indebted to the Sagacity and Address of Mr. Metbuen for it.

Ch. 70.
§. 10.
Ch. 135.
§. 6.

When, in the Reign of *Charles II.* French Bribery had prevailed so far in *England*, as to procure that the Customs and Duties, on their Product, should be light, and heavy upon that of *Spain* and *Portugal*, 'tis no Wonder that French Wines, being cheaper, as well as more palatable, were the common Draught of this Kingdom; and that consequently, we importing little from *Portugal*, that Kingdom scrupled not to prohibit several of our Woollen Manufactures, especially after having lost much of our Custom for Sugars and Tobacco. But by this Treaty, wherein it was stipulated, that the Wines of *Portugal* should be admitted in *England*, for one Third less Duty than those of *France*, *Portugal* was secure of a good Vent for its Wine, which is one principal Produce of that Country, and for which *England* almost its only Market.

And tho' it is not to be denied, that to prohibit foreign Manufactures, where the same are made at home, is generally speaking, right Policy, and was so far well judged in *Portugal*, as that it gave great Encouragement to the Woollen Manufacture there; yet the utter Abolition of the *Portuguese* Woollen Manufacture cannot well be thought to have been a direct natural Consequence of their admitting the same from *England*, altho' it would very much impair it. Neither is it to be concluded, that the Woollen Fabrics of *Portugal* were entirely demolished, because *England* furnished that Kingdom with Woollen Manufacture, to the Amount of 5 or 600,000 *per Ann.* seeing that such a Sum goes but a little Way towards clothing the whole Kingdoms of *Portugal* and *Brazil*.

I don't say the *Portuguese* Fabrics were not ruined, as the *British Merchant* tells us they were, I only say, that Woollen Manufacture exported thither from *England*, to the Amount mentioned, is no certain Proof thereof. It might be so that they were, and that might happen through the Accidents of War (or from some other Cause) rather than from *English* Woollen Manufacture being there admitted, altho' the Sale of a larger Quantity of *English* Manufacture was certainly a Consequence of such unlimited Admission, and might be a Cause of some Fabrics once destroyed, not being hastily, and perhaps not at all, repaired there. This is certain, that so much more as *England* sold there, on Account of
that

C H A P. CVIII.

*The British Merchant, 1714.**Of the State of our Trade with Spain, as it stood upon the Peace of Utrecht.*

1. **O**UR *Spanish* Trade has suffered very much from the Influence *France* has had of late Years over that Kingdom; it has been such, as even to change their ancient Habits, an Alteration once thought impracticable. This has fallen very heavy on our *Colchester* Bays, a Trade formerly so considerable to that Country; with their Habits, the *French* have introduced their Manufactures, to the great Detriment of ours. But our Trade

that Treaty, so much less might the *Portuguese* be supposed to manufacture themselves. But then on the other Hand, it is to be noted, that they by this Treaty acquired a Market for their Wines, which otherwise they could not have had, and could not vend elsewhere. Whereas their Wool, another Part of their Produce, was what, it was known, they could find a Vent for. So that the *Landed Interest* of that Kingdom was certainly consulted by his Majesty of *Portugal*, in this Treaty.

As to *England*, this single Instance of the Treaty with *Portugal* in 1703, points out to us the best, if not the only Means by which our foreign Woolen Trade is to be preserved and promoted; namely, by making wise Treaties of Commerce; by providing as much as may be, that our Woolen Manufactures be not *prohibited*, nor charged with *excessive Duties*, and not by bending our whole Thoughts and Endeavours towards preventing absolutely the Exportation of Wool from *Great Britain* and *Ireland*; which Experience of above 80 Years tells us, is next to impossible at least, in the Way wherein it has been hitherto attempted, and which if it was effected, merely by Dint of prohibitory Laws, a Register, &c. would avail us little or nothing, as, I think, will appear yet more plainly, before I come to the Conclusion of these Memoirs.

Trade * now seems to have had its fatal Blow from the Treaty

* *A Letter concerning the Spanish Trade.*

Page 94.

To the British Merchant.

S I R,

' I wonder you suffer the *Mercator* to run on as he does upon the *Spanish* Trade; he has delivered as gross Things upon this, as upon our Trade with *France*. And it is in my Opinion, your Business to undeceive his Readers, as well in one Case as in the other.

' In his Arguments about our Trade with *Spain*, he lays down as a Maxim, that if *France* could have supplied them with Manufactures, she would never have permitted that *Spain* should have solicited the opening a Trade with us; and therefore it shews of Consequence, that if *Spain* wanted a Trade with us then, we shall much more easily carry it on in Time of Peace.

' The Interest of *Spain* was certainly to open a Trade with us; for by that Means they got a Consumption of their Wine, Oil, Fruit, Cochineal, and other Commodities, some of which no Nation takes off but us; and tho' *France* takes off some equally with us, yet it was the Interest of *Spain* to have several Buyers at the Market.

Page 95.

' Now having shewn it was the Interest of *Spain* to open a Trade with us, or else they had no Consumption for several of their Commodities; it might be expected I should shew the Advantage we had by that Trade.

Spanish Wool and Dying Goods our chief Benefit by the Spanish Trade.

' I am sure all the eminent *Spanish* Merchants were of Opinion, that it could be of no other Advantage to *Great Britain*, than by supplying us with Wool and Dying Goods which we wanted; they did not promise themselves an equal Trade with that Country, or that we should sell her as great a Value of Goods, as we were likely to buy from thence; but as we had then Hopes of regaining *Spain* to the House of *Austria*, it had been no good Policy to sour the *Spaniards* by our Refusal of their Product, but rather give Way at present, on a future View.

Spain Over-balances us.

' I appeal then to all the *Spanish* Traders, whether *Spain* has not had an Over-balance against us; and if so, it could not be the Nation's Benefit to open a Trade that must exhaust us; for all Over-balance of Trade must be paid with Money.

' I am sure no one of our Commodities for the Expence of the *Spanish* Market, advanced on opening the Trade with

aty of Commerce, by which, among other Mistakes,
the

th *Spain*, which shews the *Spaniards* had no great Oc- Our Com-
sion for our Commodities; on the contrary, theirs, modities
uch otherwise must have perished in their Hands, not did not ad-
ly found a Consumption here, but at very good Prices. vance on
But let any one look back to the Peace of *Ryswick* in opening the
97, and he will find, that notwithstanding we had been Spanish
Amity with *Spain* during that War, and consequently Trade.
ried on a Trade with some Difficulty, by Convoys and But they
nners; yet on that Peace, as soon as we were able to did on the
free, and Freights and Insurance were very easy and Peace of
sonable, all *English* Goods proper for the *Spanish* *Ryswick*.
arkets advanced considerably. For Instance, *Colchester*
rose from 17*d.* to about 24*d.* the *Flemish* Ell, I
ire the *Mercator* to tell me, what they are risen since
Peace with *Spain*. If he cannot shew that our Goods
advanced, can he pretend the *Spaniards* want them?
es not all Demand necessarily cause an Advance of the
ice of Goods? Now I challenge all that trade to *Spain*,
shew one Commodity advanced, one Commodity want-
in the *Spanish* Markets, of the Growth or Product of
gland.

If the *Spaniards* wanted them in 1697, as appears by *Spain* sup-
Advance, is it not plain they do not want them now? plied by
is it not a necessary Consequence, if they do not some other
nt our Manufactures, that they are supplied from some Country.
er Country? Page 97.

Can any Thing then be more certain, than that *France*
got that Trade? Or else let the *Mercator* tell who
it; or can the *Spaniards* live without either their England.
manufactures our ours? It is equal to *England*, which loses by
the two is the present Case, since the Consequence is by taking
at I assert; we have a losing Trade to *Spain*, by Spanish
ing off more of their Commodities than they take of Commodi-
rs. However, it's certain, our Trade to *Spain* is the ties.
nefit of *France*; for since, as above, none of our Pro- The Ba-
fts are demanded there, and that *France* takes off so lance was
le of theirs, the Over-balance that we must pay, must lose now
sequently center in *France*: For *France*, by permitting to *Spain*,
Spaniards to trade with us (and I shall never think it centers in
erwise than a Permission) will have this Advantage, by France.
r taking off the Products of *Spain*, that we shall enrich
Spaniards, without which, they would be reduced to
erty and Misery; and in the mean Time *France* reaps
Benefit of their Trade, which they could not do, did
we subsist those People, by taking off their Products.'

the ancient Privileges of the *British* Nation are given ; and as we formerly gained a more considerable Balance from thence, than from any other Country, by the Exports of our Woollen Manufactures, *France* has so beat us out of that Trade ; that we now even pay a Balance to *Spain*, which Balance centers in *France*.

Spain takes French Cloth instead of ours. 2. Letters * from *Cadiz*, give this melancholy account : *That for the Woollen Manufacture of England there is no Talk of it, and that, particularly for Cloth*

* June 3, 1714

S I R,

Page 224. ' I am sorry, that the State of publick Affairs does at present so manifestly prejudice Trade. Our Commerce here (thru the Factors) have made Remarks on the *Articles of Peace and Commerce*, and represented, that in many Particulars we are in a worse Condition than in the Reign of King Charles II, and not half so much favoured in Duties as the *French* Nation. It is likewise set forth, that in the Interim, excessive Customs are exacted, more than in Time of War ; by which Means no Goods are

Page 225. ' patched, and all Trade stopped. It is made appear, that the *French* continue a clandestine Trade to the *Spanish* Indies, by the King's Connivance, expressly contrary to the Treaty. It is hoped, when these Matters are fully understood, that the Parliament will stir in the Matter ; and IT BEN'T TOO LATE, remedy those Grievances, and prevent the bad Effects of several Oversight in the late Negotiations. There are at present in this Bay, an Avon or Pacquet Boat, and four other Ships fitting for the Cruce, and the *Honduras*, laden intirely with *French* Goods, besides some other *French* Ships for the *South Sea*.

' *Mexico* Plate, Prem. 7 per Cent. Exchange for London 52 d. to 52 d. $\frac{1}{4}$ per Piece of Eight.'

N. B. ' The Reader has here an Extract of one of the Letters from Spain ; if I were to give him Extracts of the Letters to the same Purpose from the English and the Merchants in that Kingdom, they would make a very large Volume.

' The Complaints of every one are, That we are now much favoured in Duties as the *French* ; that we are in a worse Condition than we were in the Reign of King Charles II ; that more excessive Customs are exacted now, than we were in actual War with the *Spanish* Nation ;

Ch. 108. *Memoirs of Wool, &c.* 149

It's wisht the Mercator, and his Friends, saw the French Cloth they had there, which, if they did, they would be- Page 99.
lieve the French could make Cloth. Woolen Goods pay now from 20 to 30 per Cent. Let the Mercator now tell us, if he thinks the Woolen Manufacture will bear from 20 to 30 per Cent. in Spain.

3. Behold

' some of our Goods are dispatched, and that all Trade is stopped; that the French, in the mean Time, have a full Trade, by the Connivance of the King of Spain, to the Spanish Indies; and that whole Ships are laden with French Effects for those Countries, besides many which the French themselves send directly to the South-Sea. These are the Complaints which our Merchants residing in Spain, singly represent to their Correspondents here, and also jointly, as a Body, with their Consul, to the Government.

Cadix, June 24, 1714. N. S.

S I R,

' This Week came an Order to the Officers of our Cu- Page 259.
' from House, to permit the Dispatch of Goods as formerly, Letter 2d
' until the general Peace and Commerce is concluded, when from
' there will be an new Arancel (or Book of Rates) for the Cadiz.
' regulating the Payment of the Duties. And altho' Goods No Con-
' with you are exceeding cheap, here it happens the same, sumption
' and what is still worse, we have no Consumption for them, for our
' through the miserable Condition of this Country, which is Goods in
' oppressed with Taxes and Duties, and the Navigation of Spain, the
' the Spaniards to the Indies interrupted; whilst, in the In- People be-
' terim, from this Bay, and divers Ports of France, sailing oppres-
' every Month Ships for Peru, and other Coasts of the In- sed by
' dies. Taxes, and

Sevilla, June 26, 1714. O. S.

S I R,

' We are very desirous here, that the British Ambassador dies by the
' may soon arrive at Madrid, and fix the Customs out of French.
' Hand, that the Dutch, Flemish, Italians, and SPANIARDS, Letter
' may obtain the same Privileges. Since Thursday last, there from Se-
' is come an Order to dispatch Goods at the Custom-House, villa.
' as formerly. The Reason of it is, that they found no Page 261.
' body dispatch'd any on the new Terms.

' I much doubt, whether the English Ambassador can, on
' his Arrival at Madrid, prevail that the French may not sail
' to the West Indies. Several Ships of that Nation are now
' loading in the Ports of Spain and France; and from Ca-

Page 229. 3. Behold then what we have got by our Treaty !
 This Trade to *Spain*, that was formerly esteemed as the
 Page 232. best Flower in our Garden, that took off more of our
 Woolen

The French buy up all the Wool in Spain. They overstock the Spanish West Indies with Goods.

‘ *dix* lately sailed several for the *South Sea* and *Vera Cruz*.
 ‘ They have enriched themselves so much by that Trade,
 ‘ that they have engaged in this Country, for all the Wool
 ‘ at such high Rates, that they cannot be bought up for
 ‘ *Holland* and other Parts as usual ; and the same they have
 ‘ done for Oils, for which they give 65 Pieces of Eight
 ‘ per Pipe.
 ‘ The Factors from *Cartagena* (in the *West Indies*) write
 ‘ that they cannot sell Goods enough to pay Frieghts ; and
 ‘ all that Country was stocked so full, that Goods sold
 ‘ there as cheap as in *Spain*. And the Case is the same in
 ‘ *Peru*, where the *French* had swept away all the Plate to
 ‘ such a Degree, that they loaded their Ships with minera
 ‘ Oar to be refined in *France*. The said Nation has en
 ‘ grossed all the Commerce of *America*, and also of *Europe*,
 ‘ and as long as THEY REIGN in *SPAIN*, there is no Hope

Page 262. *Seville and Cadiz have no Vent to the Indies.*

‘ of any Thing favour-able for other Nations.
 ‘ Since *Seville* and *Cadiz* have no Vent to the *Indies*,
 ‘ and the Consumption of the Country is so little, and the
 ‘ Scarcity of our Money every Day increases, it’s not to be
 ‘ doubted, but those who send Goods will receive tedious
 ‘ and bad Accounts. And as I have Experience of what
 ‘ passes herein, it is but Reason I should not engage with
 ‘ you in any Goods from your Parts. For at present, there
 ‘ is no Demand for any Thing. And our Warehouses are
 ‘ full of all sorts of Merchandizes. And those who per
 ‘ suade themselves otherwise, are deceived, as they that
 ‘ are interested in the *Buenos Ayres* Ships will find, who will
 ‘ not be able to make any Sales for that Province. *Potosi*,
 ‘ *Lima*, and *Chili*, were full stocked with Goods, there
 ‘ being above 20 *French* Ships in the several Ports of the
 ‘ *South sea*, and some gone since ; infomuch, that if *Eng*
 ‘ land and *Holland* do not redress this Disorder, they had
 ‘ good not think of the Trade to the *Indies*, while the
 ‘ *French* Government predominates in *Spain*.’

Page 320. N. B. ‘ ‘Tis notorious, that our Supplies of Gold and
 Page 321. Silver were formerly wholly owing to our Trade with *Spain*
 ‘ But the Spanish Merchants unanimously answered at the
 ‘ Bar of the House of Lords, that we have dispatched no
 ‘ Goods in *Spain* of late, nor can dispatch any by the late
 ‘ Treaty. And the Merchants that reside in *Spain*, both Spa
 ‘ niards, and others, tell us roundly, there can be no En
 ‘ courage

Ch. 108. *Memoirs of Wool, &c.* 151

Woolen Manufactures, and made us greater Returns of Money, than any other Trade, is now quite stopp'd. But *France*, in the mean Time, loads whole Ships for the *Spanish*

' *couragement for us to send any Goods to that Country now, though King Philip has given Orders for the dispatching our Goods upon the Terms of his Predecessors. They assign two Reasons for this, the one is, the extreme Poverty of the People, occasioned by the War; the other, that all the Riches of the Spanish Indies are intercepted by the French.*

' *St. Maloes, from a poor beggarly privateering Town, at the End of the first War, is now in so short a Time become the richest City of its Extent in the whole World, by her Trade to the Spanish Indies. Port Louis has its Share; and we have not heard of such rich Subjects in all Europe, as the French Traders to the Spanish Indies. Almost every News Paper from France, gives us an Account of some prodigious Cargo from those Provinces, so that even England itself begins at last to be alarmed.*

' *But to make the People entirely easy in this Matter, the Gazette on Saturday July 24, 1714, comes out with a flaming Paragraph in the Article of Madrid; that very Page 322. strict Orders had been sent from Time to Time to the Viceroy and Governours in the West-Indies, to put a Stop to all clandestine Commerce, which Foreigners, particularly the French, may endeavour to carry on in those Kingdoms. And a World of vigorous Cédulas to this Purpose. And then after a long Account of French Ships that had ventured thither, notwithstanding these Discouragements, and were seized and confiscated in almost every Sea Coast Town in those Provinces, we are told, &c.*

' *That French Ships then do really go to the Spanish Indies, is true, upon the Authority of the Gazette. But they are seized, it seems, and confiscated when they come there. This is a little cruel to the Subjects of his Grandfather. But I believe the Spaniards of Cadiz have never heard of his Cruelty: For they assure us, that French Ships are fitted out from Cadiz for those Countries, with entire Cargoes of the French; and that they will not suffer Spaniards to be concerned with them. But all this while, we hear of no Spanish Ships returning from the Indies, but great Numbers of French Ships that come from thence. See here a Letter from Lima, from Don D. — G. —.*

S I R,

' *The great Abundance of all Sorts of Goods which the Letter French have brought from Time to Time into the Indies, from Lima,*

K 4

' have

Spanish Indies. The whole Riches of the *Spanish Nation* are thus given up to *France*.

C H A P.

‘ have occasioned such a Confusion in Trade, as is almost
 ‘ incredible, and will require a large Space of Time for
 ‘ their Consumption. Over and above what has been already
 ‘ introduced, there are in several Ports in these Kingdoms,
 ‘ eight Ships which have not yet broke Bulk, and which
 ‘ for want of Plate, cannot possibly be dispatched: And
 ‘ besides, there are other three, that after their Cargoes
 ‘ were sold, sailed for the *East-Indies*, and are returned hi-
 ‘ ther, laden with Silks in Abundance, from *Canton* and
 ‘ *Bengal*; all which remain without finding any Buyers, at
 ‘ any Rate, these Kingdoms being glutted with those Sorts
 ‘ of Goods; and finally, there is no Sort of Merchandize
 ‘ of what Quality soever, that is not quite down to the
 ‘ lowest Value; and if the King permit the Continuation of
 ‘ their Trade any longer, I assure you under my Hand,
 ‘ there will not remain in all these *Indies*, any Man that
 ‘ shall be worth a tolerable Estate; for they are already al-
 ‘ most all broken and lost, from the lowest to the highest;
 ‘ and even the Ecclesiastics suffer exceedingly; for there is
 ‘ not a Piece of Eight to be seen, the *French* being Arbiters
 ‘ of all the Gold and Silver, and they have now quite drained
 ‘ these Kingdoms. These Oppressions we miserable
 ‘ *Spaniards* now labour under.

‘ We have Notice of the Arrival of the Galleons off *Porto*
 ‘ *Bello*; but the miserable State of these Parts, through the
 ‘ false Measures here tolerated, must inevitably prove the
 ‘ Ruin of their Voyage; for from hence not one of this
 ‘ Commerce can go down to trade with them as usual.

Salmon's
 Chron.
 Hist.

1714.
 Represent-
 ation of
 the House
 of Lords to
 the Queen.

P. S. July 5. The House of Lords having taken into
 Consideration, the Treaty of Peace and Commerce with
 Spain, made a Representation to the Queen, July 7, in the
 following Terms. ‘ *That upon Examination of the Mer-*
 ‘ *chants at our Bar, and perusing and considering several*
 ‘ *Representations and Papers, laid before us by your Commis-*
 ‘ *sioners of Trade, it appears to us, that the carrying on the*
 ‘ *Trade between your Majesty's Dominions and Spain, on the*
 ‘ *Foot of the Treaty of Commerce, as it stands ratified with*
 ‘ *the three preliminary Articles, is attended with insuperable*
 ‘ *Difficulties; and therefore we do humbly beseech your Ma-*
 ‘ *jesty, to use effectual Means for procuring such Alterations*
 ‘ *to be made in the same, as may render the said Trade pra-*
 ‘ *cticable, and beneficial to your Majesty's People.*’

C H A P. CIX.

*The Advantages arising to Great Britain, since the Peace, by the Increase of the Navigation and Exportation of the Manufactures, and Produce of England only, viz. of Woolen Manufactures *.*

Species of Goods.	Exported 1709, 1710, 1711.
Bays, — — —	127,492 $\frac{1}{2}$
Cloth of all Sorts, — —	107,888
Cottons, — — —	273,017
Kerfies, — — —	59,884 $\frac{1}{2}$
Perpets and Serges, — —	8,250,805 <i>lib.</i>
Flannel, — — —	990,451 Yards
Stockins, — — —	81,472 Dozen
Stuffs, — — —	3,186,031 <i>lib.</i>
Says, — — —	495,457 ditto
Northern Dozens, — —	19,385 ditto
Hats, — — —	25,383 Dozen.

Spanish Wool imported into England, 13,986 Bags.
Cochineal imported, — 177,785 *lib.*

Species of Goods.	Exported 1712, 1713, 1714.
Bays, — — —	158,903 $\frac{1}{2}$
Cloth of all Sorts, — —	152,642
Cottons, — — —	525,227
Kerfies, — — —	83,110
Perpets and Serges, — —	8,643,505 <i>lib.</i>
Flannel, — — —	1,213,949 Yards
Stockins, — — —	96,939 Dozen
Stuffs, — — —	5,586,968 <i>lib.</i>
Says, — — —	619,262 ditto
Northern Dozens, — —	52,151 ditto
Hats. — — —	29,373 Dozen.

Spanish

* This is bound up, by Way of Appendix, with the Articles of Impeachment against the *Earl of Oxford*, and his Answers thereto, in Vindication of himself; and Printed in the Year 1727.

154 *Memoirs of Wool, &c. Ch. 109.*

Spanish Wool imported into *England*, 20,388 Bags
Cochineal imported ————— 220,667 lib.

The Increase of the Exports 1712, 1713, and 1714,
 more than in the Years 1709, 1710, 1711.

Bays,	—	—	31,411	Pieces
Cloth of all Sorts,	—	—	44,754	Cloths
Cottons,	—	—	252,210	Goads
Kerfies,	—	—	23,225 $\frac{1}{2}$	Pieces
Perpets and Serges,	—	—	392,700	lib.
Flannel,	—	—	223,498	Yards
Stockins,	—	—	15,467	Dozen
Stuffs,	—	—	2,400,937	lib.
Says,	—	—	123,805	ditto
Northern Dozen	—	—	32,766	ditto
Hats.	—	—	13,990	Dozen.

Spanish Wool imported ————— 6,402 Bags
Cochineal ————— 42,882 lib.

P. S. English Wool in the War, was sold at 15 s. per
 Tod, and now at 18 s. *

CHAP.

* I see nothing in this Account, which contradicts materially, what we have before met with in the *British Merchant* *, touching the Peace of *Utrecht*, and the *Treaty of Commerce* with *France*.

* See
 particularly
 Ch. 104.

It shews indeed some Increase of Trade and Navigation; but that only proves, what every one must believe, that *Peace*, in these Respects, is better than *War*. It does not therefore follow, that the *Treaty of Utrecht* was not (what is abundantly manifest from other Hands) unglorious and pernicious to *England*.

C H A P. CX.

Occurrences and Acts. 1714—15.

1. **K**ING George, in his Speech to the Parliament, Salmon's *March 21, 1714*, reflected on the Insecurity of *Chron.* the present Peace; telling them, that Trade was rendered *Hist. 1714* impracticable, and if it was not retrieved, must destroy their Manufactures and Navigation.

2. *April 1*, The Commons addressed the King, to *1715.* lay the Negotiations of Peace and Commerce before the House, with which his Majesty having complied, a Secret Committee was appointed to inspect them.

3. *An * Act to make more effectual an Act of the tenth Year of her late Majesty, intituled an Act for regulating, 10 Anne, improving, c. 16.*

* This Act recites, ' That the Act of the Tenth ^b of ^b Ch. 91. Queen Anne, had proved ineffectual for preventing the ^{s. 12. Note} Abuses committed, in making and measuring mix'd or Medley Broad Cloths, and therefore ordained, 1. That at the Instance and Request of the Buyer, it shall for Proof thereof, be put into Water (as by ancient Custom they usually were) and then measured by two indifferent Persons, to be chose, one, by the Buyer, and another, by the Seller of the said Cloth; and in Case they disagree in ascertaining the Length and Breadth of the said Cloth, by a third Person of their chusing, and if they neglect or refuse within the Space of two Hours to chuse, or if the Person so chosen, neglect or refuse to take upon him the said Admeasurement, then (if in *London*) it shall finally be made by the Keeper of *Blackwell-Hall*, to be sworn for that Purpose; if elsewhere, by some fit Person, to be nominated by the chief Magistrate, where the said Cloth shall happen to be sold. And if upon such Admeasurement, the Quantity be found less in Length or Breadth, than is expressed in the Seal from the *Fulling-Mill*, the sixth Part of the whole Value to be forfeited, if in *London*, for the Benefit of *Christ's-Hospital*; if elsewhere, to the Poor of the Parish; the Forfeiture to be paid by the Buyer, and by him deducted from the Price of the Cloth.

2. That if the Fuller refuse or neglect to take the Oath required by the said Tenth of Queen Anne, or to fix the Seal

improving, and encouraging of the Woollen Manufacture, of mixed, or medley Broad Cloths, and for the better Payment of the Poor, employed therein, *for the Benefit of Trade in general; and also to render more effectual, an Act of the seventh Year of her said Majesty's Reign, intituled, An Act for the better ascertaining the Lengths and Breadths of Woollen Cloth made in the County of York.* 1 Geo. c. 15.

7 *Anne,*
c. 13.

4. *An Act for giving Liberty to Persons who have served their Apprenticeship to any Part of the Woollen Manufacture in Colchester, to work at the said Trades, and at making Bays in the said Town,* c. 41. *

Salmon's
Chron.
Hist.
1715.

5. Feb. 25. An Express arrived from *Madrid*, which brought his Catholick Majesty's Ratification of the Treaty of Commerce † between *Great Britain* and *Spain*, concluded the 14th of *December*, 1715.

CHAP.

‘ Seal required by the said Act: Or if any Person shall take off,
‘ Deface, or Counterfeit such Seal, being lawfully convicted
‘ thereof, shall for every such Neglect or Offence, forfeit
‘ 20 *l.* [instead of 20 *s.* by the Act of Queen *Anne.*] That
‘ if Clothiers shall pay their Workmen in Goods and not in
‘ Money, the Forfeiture in that Case, shall be 40 *s.* instead
‘ of 20, as by the former Act.’

‘ Ch. 91.
§. 12.

3. With Regard to the Seventh of *Anne* c, touching *Yorkshire* Broad Cloths, it determines the Length and Breadth, with the Penalty of 20 *s.* for over-stretching them, and of 40 *s.* for fixing a Mark thereon, other than the Makers own.

Preamble.

‘ ‘ Whereas the Trade of making *Bays* in *Colchester*,
‘ was formerly a free Trade, ‘till by Virtue of a *By-Law*,
‘ made 1707, the same was restrained to Persons serving
‘ their Apprenticeship to *Bay-makers* only; which *By-Law*
‘ hath by Experience been found to be highly detrimental to
‘ that Branch of the Woollen Manufacture. And whereas,
‘ by Means of the abovementioned *By-Law*, and by the ill
‘ Practices of some of the *Bay-makers*, of the said Town of
‘ *Colchester*, the *Poor Weavers*, and other Persons working
‘ at the Woollen Manufacture there, have been *grievously*
‘ *oppressed*. For Remedy thereof, be it enacted, &c.’

‘ See
Chap. 49.
§. 1.

† ‘ By the Treaty concluded at *Madrid* (1667^d) the
‘ Duties of Importation payable upon the Manufactures
‘ and Product of *Great Britain*, amounted, upon the esta-
‘ blished Valuation, in the *Spanish* Books of Rates (after
‘ the

C H A P. CXI.

A Letter to the Right Honourable the Lords Commissioners of Trade and Plantations, concerning the Trade of New England, 1715.

1. **A**T present, the Importation of *New England* Page 7.
exceeds their Exportation: This, if not balanced, must bring on this double Evil; it will oblige us to set up Manufactories of our own, which will destroy that Branch of Trade: And this necessarily infers the other fatal Inconveniency or Evil: Those Manufactories will employ the Hands that are, or would be at work on naval Stores. And the Nation may come entirely to depend on the Humours and politick Designs of the *Russ*, the *Dane* and the *Swede*, for Leave to set a Fleet to Sea.

2. If any one shall object, My Lords, that these Da- Page 8.
mages are only imaginary, or else why have they not fallen upon Manufactories already; for that they have not, we find, because the Exportation to those Plantations yearly increases? Your Lordships, I hope, will be satisfied

‘ the Deduction of the Gratia’s) in *Andalusia*, to $11\frac{1}{2}$ per Cent. in *Valencia*, to 5 per Cent. and in *Catalonia*, to about 7 per Cent. or less; and consequently upon the whole
‘ afore said Trade, those Duties could not exceed 10 per Cent. on a Medium.

‘ By the explanatory Articles of the *Treaty of Utrecht*,
‘ the Duties of Importation upon the Products and Manufactures of *Great Britain*, were augmented in *Andalusia*
‘ to $27\frac{1}{2}$ per Cent. at a Medium. But by the late Treaty
‘ made with his present Majesty at *Madrid*, the said Duties
‘ are again reduced, according to the afore said Treaty of
‘ 1667.

‘ Another considerable Advantage is, that the *French*,
‘ by the Treaty made with his present Majesty, are to pay
‘ the same Duties at the *Dry Ports*, through which they
‘ pass by Land Carriage, as we pay upon Importation or
‘ Exportation by Sea; which was not provided for by the
‘ *Utrecht Treaty*.’ Freeholder, Numb. 41.

satisfied with the following Answer, which is but one of many that offer.

*A Woolen
Manufa-
cture in
New Eng-
land.*

Page 9.

3. *We have a very considerable Manufactory already established in New England, begun in the great Scarcity and Dearthness of Goods, about nine Years ago, when the English Manufacture sold at 200 per Cent. Advance to the Shop, which added 25 per Cent. for their own Profit; which great Advance arose from the Badness and Uncertainty of Returns, and this, in some Measure, from the ill Pay of the Bounty Money, and great Discount on the Certificates. The Merchants could not sell cheaper, and the Husbandman and Householder would not give so dear.*

4. *This put them upon making Buttons, Stuffs, Kerseys, Linsey Woolseys, Flannels, &c.; which has decreased the Importation of those Provinces, above 50,000 l. per Annum. And for the Exportation increasing, that is only the Effect of the Peoples Increase, and has no more in it, than that three Men require more clothing than two.*

C H A P. CXII.

Provision for the Poor, or a View of the decay'd State of the Woolen Manufacture, with Remarks on the Causes and evil Consequences thereof, and a Scheme of proper Remedies, &c. By John Haynes. The Second Edition, 1715.

Preface,
p. 3.

1. **T**HE Preservation and Increase of the Woolen Manufacture being of the greatest Importance to Great Britain, 'tis presumed, a just Representation of the present State of it, will not be unacceptable to the Publick. 'Tis but too manifest, that the true Interest of it is not pursued with due Diligence and Care, and that proper Measures are not yet fallen upon for promoting it, by the effectual preventing of the Exportation of Wool.

2. I



2. I give a short View of the Endeavours hitherto Page 4-
used, for that End, how they came to be ineffectual;
with a *Scheme* of Proposals, for the more effectual Pur-
suit of that Service.

3. The Wool of *France* and *Holland*, is of that Na-
ture and Quality, that 'twill not make *Cloth* or *Stuffs* for
Ornament or Service, without a Mixture * of OURS
with it. And their Care † and Diligence to get OUR
Wool for this Purpose is a sufficient Indication of what
I say. When they have thus clandestinely obtained our
Wool, they work it up in their own Manufacturies,
cloath their own Subjects with it, and supply *Italy*, *Tur-
key*, *Spain*, and other Foreign Countries, which we for-
merly did.

4. There are three Sorts of Wool different in their Page 6.
Kinds, and applied to different Uses, in which great
Numbers are continually employed. To form an Esti-
mate of the Loss sustained by exporting rough Wool:
Let us compute the Numbers of Poor employed in work-
ing it up. One Pack of short Wool made into Cloth,
is Employment for 63 Persons a Week. A Pack of long
Wool for Stuffs, is Employment for 302 Persons, who
will earn 43 *l.* 10 *s.* But such a Pack wrought into the
finest Stuffs, will employ double the Number of Hands
in the Spinning and Weaving especially. In Stockins, a
Pack will employ 202 Persons, who will earn 56 *l.* 1 *s.*
And here it falls in my Way to take Notice of the Silk Page 11;
Manufacture. A hundred Weight of Silk, will employ
weekly 297 Persons, who will earn 88 *l.* 10 *s.* †

5. In

* Either this Author had never read the *British Merchant*,
or to very little Purpose.

† But what if another Account may be given of this their
Care and Diligence? (See Chap. 66: §. 11. Note.)

‡ This Writer had said before (p. 3.) 'that of all the
' Labours which exercised the Hands of the skilful Artist,
' the Woolen Manufacture was the most beneficial.' Yet
here he shews us, that 297 Persons in the Silk Manu-
facture, will earn 88 *l.* 10 *s.* while a greater Number (302)
are earning less than half that Sum, (43 *l.* 10 *s.*) in the best
Branch of the Manufacture of the best English Wool. This
shews that so far as this Nation, in any Part of it, has
gone off, from the Woolen, to the Silk Manufacture (which
is the Case in London, and some other Places) the Poor have
turned

- Page 16. 5. In the Reign of King *Charles II.*, much of our Cloth was monthly exported to *Hamburg*; but of late Years, that noted and beneficial Trade is much declined, indeed, almost lost; which I cannot but think is chiefly occasioned by the laying open^e of that Company, whereby all Foreigners are privileged in trading thither; and by Cloth being made in the neighbouring Countries, with the Help of our Wool, and *Fullers Earth* exported to those Parts, whereby they have been enabled to set up Manufacturies of their own. Besides, they get our dying Wares from us, with less Charge, than we can use them^r here, by Reason of the large Drawbacks^{*} allowed^r on them.
- Ch. 72.
§. 3.
- Page 18.
- Ch. 114.
§. 3.

turned their Hands to more Advantage. And the Wool Grower is the only Sufferer.

- ✎ I know it is said, that the Silk Manufacture is propitious to the Woolen Trade, as making^a Vent for Woolen Goods in *Italy* and *Turkey*, in Proportion to the Quantities of raw Silk imported from thence to *England*. But however this might formerly have been the Case; I believe it is certain, that the Silk Manufacture in *England*, and consequently the *English* Importations of raw Silk hath increased, while the Vent for Woolens to *Turky* and *Italy*, hath been declining^{*} for some Years. And as more Silks are manufactured in the Kingdom, the more also they are worn at home, and consequently the less is the home Consumption of Woolen Stuffs and Stockins; so that must needs affect, tho' not the labouring Part of the People (who in Process of Time, apply themselves to such Work, as affords the most Employment and best Wages) yet the Landed Interest or WOOL GROWER, who, (as the Law stands) *must*, however, SHOULD, sell his WOOL to the *English* Manufacturer ONLY.
- Ch. 103.
§. 5. Note.
- Ch. 122.
§. 3, 4.

* This is a Topick much insisted upon by several Writers on the Woolen Trade, who with equal Want of Judgment, complain of the Drawback in this Case, as what should be taken off; whereas, in Truth, if any Thing, the Duty itself should be taken off; or rather the *English* Exporter of Dyed Woolen Goods should be considered with some Bounty equal to the Duty paid for Dying Stuffs. For it is obvious enough to suppose, that as these Dying Stuffs are all imported, so if Foreigners had them not from *English* Merchants, they would procure them by another Channel, and so much Trade would be lost to the Merchants of this Kingdom; which I conceive is the very Consideration, upon which the Drawback is allowed.

them. Thus the Art of Dying will be lost in *England*, without a speedy Prevention; it is lamentable to consider what Quantities of Cloth, and other Woolen Manufactures are transported white †.

6. I shall now shew the Methods which have been Page 28; taken to prevent this growing Evil, *the Exportation of Wool*; the sure and most effectual Means of doing which, is, to encourage the Commissioners ‡ already appointed by Act of Parliament, to be vigilant in exerting their Authority, by allotting them such *Provisions* and *Salaries*, as may enable them to employ and reward Officers.

7. This Power was first lodged in the Commissioners of the Customs, who by Virtue of an Act of Parliament made in the 12th and 14th Years of *Charles II.* issued forth Orders to their chief Officers in their respective Ports, to inspect and prevent the Exportation of Wool. But so it was, that either through the Carelessness, or through the Corruption of many of these Officers, the Exportation was still practised with Impunity; insomuch, that upon the Death of King *Charles II.* the Clothiers of several of the Clothing Counties, petitioned King *James II.* for the Redress of such a crying Grievance. Upon this he gave a Commission * by Letters Patents under

† Our Author here has Recourse to the supposed Letter of Sir *Walter Raleigh* ^h to King *James I.* (of which so much ^h Ch. 30; has been already said) as an indisputable Authority, without appearing to know any Thing of what happened, *Ann.* 1616. (See Chap. 91. §. 10. *Note.*)

‡ N. B. Our Author himself seems to have been one of these Commissioners (See §. 8. *Note.* the Names of several, *John Haines*, for one.)

* The Commission was directed to the Governours, Deputy Governours, and Treasurers of the Merchant Adventurers of *England*, commonly called the *Hamburg Company*.

† In Pursuance of this Commission, the said Commissioners met in *London* at *Founders-Hall* in *Lotbbury*, weekly, and gave Orders for the fitting out of several Shallops for cruizing, and appointed Land Officers to have Inspection upon the Coasts of *Kent*, who were frequently disturbed in the Exercise of their Office, by considerable Numbers of *French*, that came armed ashore to guard and

under the Privy Seal in the first Year of his Reign to several Persons in and about *London* and *Westminster*, June 24.

8. In

‘ cover the Exporters. Upon this, a Troop of Horse was sent down; but what Assistance they gave, was chiefly to the Owlers, who bribed them to connive at the *Exportation of W O O L*.

‘ In fine, the said Commissioners having expended many hundred Pounds of their own, more than was collected, and seeing no Likelihood of being reimbursed, or of procuring a sufficient Sum to answer the Charge of carrying on so important a Work, did desist from acting.

‘ Matters being come to this Pass, the Clothiers of the Western Parts, represented their Case in a Petition unto the King and Council, who thereupon ordered the Commissioners of the Customs, to make a Report to the Committee of Trade, of their Opinion relating to that Affair.

The Report was, as follows,

May it please your Lordships.

‘ By an Order of his Majesty in Council, signified to us by Sir *John Nicholas*, upon the Petition of, &c. complaining, that great Quantities of *W O O L* are daily transported to *France*, &c.

‘ His Majesty being pleased to refer the Consideration thereof to us, requiring us to report to the Right Honourable the Committee of Trade, &c. what Remedy we conceive most proper, to put a Stop to that growing Mischief, so prejudicial to the Trade and Welfare of this Kingdom.

‘ We humbly report, that it hath been the constant Opinion of this Board, that the preventing the Exportation of *W O O L*, is a Matter of great Moment and Consideration, as well to the Revenue of Customs, as to the Trade and Welfare of this Kingdom; and so do humbly acquaint your Lordships, that since the Year 1685, the Crown hath been, and is, at an extraordinary Expence of seven or eight hundred Pounds *per Ann.* at least, out of the Revenues of the Customs, in the maintaining Vessels at Sea in that Service, besides an Allowance of a Moiety of the King’s Forfeitures of all *Wool* seized, and all other Forfeitures by the Act for preventing the Exportation thereof, as a Bounty for the Encouragement of such as should seize, or make a Discovery of Frauds relating thereto. And because that Expence and Bounty from the Crown, was not found sufficient to undertake and carry on

Ch. 112. *Memoirs of Wool, &c.* 163

8. In short, the Commissioners of the Customs found their Officers very remiss in doing their Duty. And at last, the Clothiers from several Counties representing their Grievance to Parliament, and the Report above-mentioned being taken into Consideration, a Bill was prepared and brought in, for the *more effectual preventing the Exportation of Wool*, which passed into an Act * in the first Year of the Reign of King William and Queen Mary ^k.

* Ch. 72:

9. Pursuant §. 3.

‘ on the Charge of the said Service, his late Majesty was
 ‘ pleased, upon the Petition of the Clothiers and Factors,
 ‘ and from the Report of this Board to your Lordships, to
 ‘ issue out the aforesaid Commission to prevent the Export-
 ‘ ation of Wool, to certain Persons to collect a voluntary Page 32
 ‘ Contribution towards the same. And if the said Com-
 ‘ mission be determined, it is the Opinion of this Board,
 ‘ that the Laws prohibiting the Exportation of Wool,
 ‘ cannot be duly put in Execution, and the Evil effectually
 ‘ prevented, without some Persons commissioned, as before,
 ‘ fit to be trusted with a Matter of this Nature, be employ-
 ‘ ed therein, with a considerable Supply of Money to be
 ‘ expended by them in the said Service, two or three thou-
 ‘ sand Pounds *per Ann.* at least, over and above all Fines
 ‘ and Forfeitures; and in the mean time, we conceive it
 ‘ will conduce much to the Service aforesaid, if his Majesty
 ‘ should be pleased to issue his royal Proclamation, to revive
 ‘ the Proclamation which was made by his late Majesty,
 ‘ touching this Matter.

Custom-House London,
 March, 4, 1689.

Tho. Worden,
 Dudley North,
 Will. Culliford, } Commissioners.

‘ *This was only intended for the County of Kent; for the
 ‘ West and Northern Counties had not then so much Know-
 ‘ ledge of the exporting Trade, as they now have.*

‘ ‘ In this Act, particular and separate Commissioners
 ‘ were appointed for seeing to the Execution of it. The
 ‘ Persons nominated for that End, were of known Integrity,
 ‘ interested in, and zealous Promoters of the Woollen Ma- Page 34
 ‘ nufacture; but for want of Money to defray the Charges
 ‘ of Officers, carry on Prosecutions, &c. they were forced
 ‘ to decline acting for some Years; till at last the Export-
 ‘ ation became so open and bare-faced, not only in Kent
 ‘ and Sussex, but upon the Borders of Scotland, and in se-
 ‘ veral maritime Counties of this Kingdom, that the Mer-
 ‘ chants

Page 39. 9. Pursuant to an Act 7, 8 of King *William*, the
 1 See Ships¹ and Sloops appointed were fitted out, and the King-
 Chap. 76. dom was at a very great annual Expence in maintaining
 §.14. Note. them. There was also established by Warrant from the
 Lords of the Treasury, three Sloops in the Month of
March 1697, which also proved, both chargeable and
 ineffectual. In *January* 1698-9, the Parliament ordered
 the Admiralty to lay before them an Account of the
 yearly Charge of each of those Frigates, &c. exclusive
 of the Charge of the Office of Ordnance. Accordingly
 an Account was given in, and the same amounted to
 29,016*l.* 7*s.*

10. Further,

‘ chants and Clothiers of the Northern Parts, made pressing
 ‘ Solicitations to Sir *Henry Gooderick*, a *Yorkshire* Gentle-
 ‘ man, and Privy Counsellor, one of the Commissioners no-
 ‘ minated in the Act, to call a meeting of Commissioners,
 ‘ for applying some Remedy to that reigning Evil, and
 ‘ giving the necessary Orders to put the Laws † in Ex-
 ‘ ecution. Pursuant to their repeated Request, that Gen-
 ‘ tleman forthwith did procure a meeting of such Commis-
 ‘ sioners, as were then in and about *London*. They met at
 ‘ the *Guild-Hall* of *London*, *July* 22, 1698. And consider-
 ‘ ing they had no Provision of Money for defraying the
 ‘ Charges of Officers (upon which Head, the King in Coun-
 ‘ cil had been petitioned, and the Matter referred to the
 ‘ Lords of the Treasury) they immediately drew up the
 ‘ following Representation to the Lords of the Treasury.

May it please your Lordships.

m 1 W. M. ‘ Several of the Commissioners appointed^m for preventing
 c. 32. ‘ the Exportation of Wool, &c. having met this Day at
 ‘ *Guild-hall*, in order to the putting the said Act in Execu-
 ‘ tion, have agreed unanimously, humbly to present to your
 ‘ Lordships Consideration, the pressing Necessity of your
 ‘ Lordships taking favourable Resolutions, upon the Re-
 ‘ ference lately made by his Majesty in full Council, to a
 ‘ Petition signed by several Merchants and eminent Traders
 ‘ in this City, which we presume e’er this Time, is laid
 ‘ before your Lordships.

‘ And

† Which, it seems, were notoriously transgressed about this
 Time, in this particular; and yet remarkable it is, that not
 only Wool gave a high Price in England, but the Expor-
 tations of WOOLEN MANUFACTURES were also considerably
 great.

Ch. 112. *Memoirs of Wool, &c.* 165

10. Further, in the 10, 11 of King *William*, an Page 40.
 Act was made^m, which was an additional Charge, pro^m Ch. 85.
 bably of 25,000*l.* and which added to the other, a- §. 7.
 mounts to more than 50,000 *per Ann.* It is the Opi-
 nion of many judicious Merchants, that the former
 Com-

‘ And we are the more emboldened hereunto, by the fre- 
 ‘quent and certain Informations we have received, that
 ‘great Quantities of Wool have lately been transported
 ‘into foreign Parts, and much more thereof is probably
 ‘prepared for the same End, to the great Discouragement
 ‘of the Woolen Manufacture.
 ‘ Our Duty obliges us to this Representation, and our-
 ‘selves to be

Your Lordships, &c.

Sir *H. Gooderick*, Chairman.

Sir *William Asburst*, Knt.

Sir *Benj. Ayloff*, Knt. Bart.

Sir *John Fleet*, Knt.

Sir *William Gore*, Knt.

Nathaniel Tench, Esq;

Thomas Crundel.

John Busfield.

John Haines.

Edward Bickley.

Richard Harrifon.

Philip Bickley.

Guildhall, London,
July 26, 1698.

‘ Those Commissioners did send out Officers into all the Page 36.
 ‘maritime Countries, who made several Seizures, which
 ‘upon Trial, being proved to be legally made, the Wool
 ‘was condemned, and the King’s Moiety paid.

‘ But the Custom-House Officers, in several Counties,
 ‘especially Northward, where was most Danger, rather
 ‘discouraged than assisted them in the legal Discharge
 ‘of their Duty, which by the Act of Parliament. they
 ‘were commanded to do.

‘ The Commissioners of Wool fitted out a small Sloop Page 38.
 ‘of about 40 Tun, who seized several *French* and *English*
 ‘Ships with Wool consigned for *France* (besides several
 ‘Boats in the River) and by the Commanders Industry,
 ‘took more in nine Moonths, than all the other Vessels
 ‘employed on the same Account, did in several Years, as
 ‘can be easily demonstrated; and the Commissioners were
 ‘very well pleased, that they had taken such a Method as
 ‘gave such Certainty of its good Effects. But the want of
 ‘Money forced them to drop it.’

A LIST of the Number of Surveyors and Riding Officers, deputed by the Commissioners appointed by Act of Parliament made in the first Year of the Reign of King *William* and Queen *Mary*, for preventing the Exportation of Wool and Yarn, &c. ; with the Counties they were posted in, what Seizures of Wool was made by them, and the Value thereof ; with the Difficulties they underwent in that Service, as well as Charge in obtaining and entering Informations, as also carrying on Prosecutions against the Exporters of Wool in the Court of *Exchequer*.

Surveyors.	Counties under their Charge.	Number of riding Officers.	Packs of Wool seized.	What appraised at.	Number of Packs condemned.	Recovery thereupon.	Packs refused from the Officers.	The Value of the Wool rescued from the Officers.	Officers Expences annually in keeping themselves and Horses, at 60 <i>l.</i> per Ann.
Captain <i>William</i> <i>Ingram</i> , } <i>sen.</i>	Northum. } Durham } Cumberl. }	54	105	£ 530	57	140	236	£ 1262	£ 3240
<i>Will. Ingram, jun.</i>	Yorkshire	18	46	236	6	35	53	275	1080
Robert Moore	Lincolnshire	19	38	214			41	246	1140
Robert Carter	Lancashire	10	6	56					600
Thomas Braine	Cheshire	7	3	16			12	72	420
John Stokes	Norfolk	16	6	35	5	30	36	198	960
Edward Nordeh	Suffolk	9	4	22	4	23			540
John Hamilton	Effex	9	29	146	20	105	5	30	540
Edw. Anderfon	Surrey	4	6	33	6	32	8	44	240
Robert Barker	Kent	36	65	362	8	44	45	270	2160
Charles Webb	Suffex	20	26	148	12	72	21	126	1200
Samuel Spicer	Hampshire	28	55	306	12	72	6	36	1680

Will. Whotton	16	11	62	6	34	25	140	960
Chr. Pollard	12	9	52	5	36	4	24	720
Will. Syme	14	12	68	6	33			840
J. Larton	12	9	52	5	36	25	150	720
J. Hughes	15	22	126	8	46	12	72	900
	19	457	3791	162	744	504	2705	17040

The Charge the Commissioners for Wool were at annually, viz.

To Postage of Letters from their Officers,	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
To their Secretary, Clerks, Messengers and Door-keepers,	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
To the Cost of a small Sloop, and fitting it out to Sea for cruising on the Coast of Kent and Sussex,	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
with the Charge of Victualling, Wages, Ware and Tare,	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
To Seventeen Supervisors or chief Agents, at 120 <i>l.</i> per Ann. each Man,	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
To Two hundred ninety-nine Riding Officers, at 60 <i>l.</i> per Ann.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

43 00 00
180 00 00
676 00 00
2040 00 00
17940 00 00
20878 00 00

Commissioners, by the Methods they took, would have done more Service, and prevented the Exportation of greater Quantities of Wool; if they had but 30,000 *l.* * *per Ann.* settled upon them by the Government.

11. But the Officers sustained great Loss † for want of Money to carry on the Prosecutions, upon Seizures, Replevins, and personal Informations.

12. *Defects in the present Laws are,* 1. The Want of a Fund to defray the Charge of prosecuting Offenders, and fully executing the Laws. 2. The Prosecutions not being at the Charge of the Crown. 3. The Want of Corporal Punishment, as well as Fines and Imprisonment.

* But if not, they would have had 30,000 *l.* *per Ann.* which was an Appointment worth pleading for by this Writer, as one of those Commissioners*. (See §. 13. *Note.*)

° §. 6.
*Provisions
wanted
and Sala-
ries for
Commis-
sioners.*

† *Viz.* ' By 479 Packs of Wool rescued from them, to the Hazard of their Lives. By personal Informations entered in the Court of Exchequer, against sundry Persons for exporting 2893 Packs of Wool, which would have amounted to, if prosecuted upon the Statute 7, 8 *Will.* III. for the Penalty of 3 *s.* *per Pound Weight*, 36 *l.* *per Pack, viz.* 104,148 *l.*

N. B. ' The Officers met with great Discouragement from Justices of the Peace in several Counties, especially Northumberland and the Bishoprick of Durham (by being imprisoned and having legal Seizures taken from them) *viz.* Sir Francis Blake then Member of Parliament, Justice Howard, Forster, Taylor, Gray, Colingwood.

Note, ' That of 3791 Packs of Wool seized, there was but 162 condemned in the Exchequer, the Remainder was either rescued, or not prosecuted for want of Money. The Recoveries on those condemned, amounted to 744 *l.* two Thirds of which was spent in Prosecutions, and the Moiety given by Law to the Crown, so that the Officers had no more than 248 *l.* The Sloop took 80 Packs of Wool, which was appraised at 402 *l.* most of which, after condemned at the Captain's Charge, upon Trials in the Court of Exchequer, lies now † in the Custom-House Warehouses, being refused to be delivered, until the Moiety due to the Crown was paid; which Edwards the Master of the Sloop, was rendered unable to do, having expended his Substance in carrying on Prosecutions against the Offenders, &c.'

† *Now!* that is, I suppose, when the first Edition of this *Traff* was published; but when that was, does not appear.

Ch. 112. *Memoirs of Wool, &c.* 169

ment. 4. Want of suitable Rewards to the Discoverers. 5. Not restraining Water Carriage. 6. Not lessening the Quantities allowed to the Islands of *Guernsey* and *Jersey*. 7. The Want of registering Wool; especially, in all the Counties on the Sea Coasts, and to be brought for Sale to publick Markets, and not sold in private Contracts, &c. 8. Want of the same Care in *Ireland*, as in *Great Britain*, both by Land and Sea. 9. Lastly, a Want of small Sloops to search into Creeks, and the Entrance of navigable Rivers leading to the Sea, &c.

13. I *propose* then, 1. That the Water Carriage of Wool be entirely prohibited (except what is allowed by Parliament to be exported to *Guernsey*, &c.) 2. That all Prosecutions be carried on at the Charge of the Crown *. 3. A sufficient Number of Sloops to guard the Coasts of *Great Britain* †, &c. 4. That no more Wool be allowed

* ‘ And whereas her late Majesty, by Proclamation gave a Reward of 40 *l.* as in Case of Highwaymen, to all such as should seize or hinder the Exportation of Wool, it is humbly conceived, that it would be better if 5 *l.* a Pack were given for all Wool seized and condemned, over and above what the Law before allowed. For according to that Proclamation, by Collusion between an Owlser and an Officer, the Government might pay 40 *l.* for a single Pack of Wool, which would encourage Fraud, whereas 5 *l.* for every Pack would have a very different Effect.

† ‘ A Scheme of the Cost of manning and victualling 22 Sloops for guarding the Coasts of *Great Britain*, to prevent the Exportation of Wool, *viz.* Page 69.

Three Sloops of 25 Men each,	<i>l.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>
The Yearly Charge	2566	10	0
Six Dit. of 20 Men each,	4238	8	0
Thirteen Dit. of 15 Men each,	7244	16	11

Total Charge for Sloops 14049 14 11

‘ Their Station for cruizing, <i>viz.</i> &c.	Page 70.
‘ A List of the Officers, &c. at Land, necessary to be employed, <i>viz.</i> &c.	Page 71.
‘ Total Expence	11200 0 0
‘ For guarding the Coast of <i>Wales</i> by Land,	
Total	2700 0 0

Scotland

- lowed to *Guernsey, &c.* than was, by 14 *Charles II.*
 " Ch. 115. 5. That some corporal ^a Punishment, or Transportation
 §. 1. for Life be inflicted on certain Transgressors, besides
 all Fines †, &c. 6. That a Restraint be laid on the
 printing and wearing of Callicoes * in *Great Britain* and
Ireland.

Scotland	—	—	—	1600	0	0
Five Commissioners at 300 <i>l.</i>	—	—	—	1500	0	0
One Secretary at 100 <i>l.</i>	—	—	—	100	0	0
Two Clerks at 50 <i>l.</i>	—	—	—	100	0	0
Two Messengers at 30 <i>l.</i>	—	—	—	60	0	0
Two Door-keepers	—	—	—	40	0	0
House Rent and House-keeping	—	—	—	200	0	0
Postage of Letters	—	—	—	40	0	0
Total				31589	14	11

- Page 77. † ' But what is farther most material to be considered, is,
 ' a Fund to defray the Charges of this Scheme. The Frigates
 ' and Sloops already established by Act of Parliament, have
 ' cost the Nation 55000 *l.* and upwards annually; which
 ' if recalled, and the Commissioners ^o, according to this
 ' Scheme, authorized to fit out Sloops as mentioned, it is not
 ' to be doubted but that our Wools Exportation would be
 ' effectually prevented. And I am so far from desiring to
 ' be chargeable to the Crown in this Matter, that I doubt
 ' not but the Crown will be Gainer by the following Me-
 ' thod.' Here our Author wisely proposes a Duty of 3 *d.*
 ' the Pound Weight on Cloth and other Woolen Manufacture,
 ' shipped off white and dressed, and 4 *d.* for all undressed; of
 ' 1 *s.* for every long Cloth dressed and dyed, exported by De-
 ' nixens, and double the Duty on Aliens; and 5 *s.* per Pack,
 ' or one Farthing a Pound on all Fleece Wool, and the Half of
 ' that Duty on all Fel Wool.

* ' The Reason of this Proposal is manifest, in that
 ' hereby the Consumption of our fine Silks and Stuffs is
 ' much lessened †, not only in wearing them at home, but
 ' exporting them to foreign Parts. And here I cannot omit
 ' mentioning wrought Silks imported from *India*, which
 ' tho' forbid to be exposed to Sale here, are sent to *Ire-*
 ' land, our Plantations, &c.; which deprives thousands of
 poor

- † See † *The Use of Callicoes printed in England, since the Year*
 Chap. 87. 1701^o, began now to be complained of as a Grievance; of
 P. S. 14. which we shall hear more, a few Years hence. (See Chap.
 Note. 116, 117, 118, §. 1, 7.)

Ch. 112. *Memoirs of Wool, &c.* 171

Ireland. 7. Notwithstanding what has been already said, it is impossible to secure the desired Effects, if we shut not the *Irish* Back-door. I shall therefore endeavour, according to my Capacity, to lay down a Method † for the Prevention of that Evil also.

14. Here let us have a Retrospect to the Cause of *Ireland* so abounding in Wool. It is well known to be a fruitful Country; and their chief Breed and Feed was formerly black Cattle. But (whether for our Advantage) in *Charles II.*, an Act was made to prohibit the Importation of *Irish* Cattle, by which they were forced, for Consumption of their Pasturage, and a Livelihood, to breed Sheep; which has occasioned a great Quantity of Wool in that Kingdom; and *England* having laid a severe Duty on their

‘ poor Weavers and others of their Labour, by lessening the
‘ Consumption of our Woolen Manufactures abroad: And
‘ what is worse, if I am rightly informed, these Silks are
‘ shipped off to our Plantations Custom free, nay, with a
‘ Drawback of *per Cent.*
‘ It is therefore humbly hoped, that our Legislators will
‘ take this Matter into their Consideration; and also the
‘ Drawbacks allowed on the Exportation of our Dying
‘ Wares.’

† A Scheme of the Cost of 10 Sloops for guarding the
‘ Coasts of *Ireland*, viz.

		<i>l.</i>	<i>s.</i>	
Four of 25 Men each	_____	3156	12	0
Three of 20 Men each	_____	1959	18	0
Three of 15 Men each	_____	1552	10	0
Tot. annual Charge		6669	00	0

‘ Their Stations, viz. &c. Page 90.

‘ These Sloops being so stationed, may have Communication with each other, to consult proper Measures for discovering Frauds, and in few Hours join themselves occasionally.

‘ And considering the Impossibility of the Commissioners Page 95.
‘ in *England*, inspecting the Affairs of that Kingdom to good Effect, it is humbly proposed, that three Commissioners * may be appointed there, and they obliged, &c.

* I suppose him also to have intended a competent Number of Supervisors and riding Officers for that Kingdom, as in this, altho’ he has omitted to mention so much.

their Wool and Yarn, can it be supposed they will not find other Vent for it; and who can blame them?

15. I propose then, for Redress, 1. That the Act before-mentioned, for prohibiting the Importation of Black Cattle be repealed, and the Breed of their Sheep confined * to such a Number as may be thought sufficient, fully to supply the Occasions of that Kingdom. But if the Wisdom of the Nation shall not think fit to repeal the *Irish Act*, it is submitted, whether it would not be expedient to permit and encourage the Importation of *Irish Wool and Yarn into England*, by taking off the Duty; which I am very fond of thinking, will appear proper to be done.

C H A P. CXIII.

Occurrences and Acts, 1716—17.

Salmon's 1. **T**HE Parliament met Feb. 20, 1716, when the
Chron. King in his Speech told them, he had entered
Hist. 1716. into such Negotiations, as has remedied many Defects in the Treaty of *Utrecht*, which very nearly affected the Trade of the Kingdom.

2. *An Act for* and for the more
effectual Discovery of, and prosecuting such, as shall unlawfully

* Other Writers have talked in this manner, of limiting the Number of Sheep in *Ireland*. But may it not be asked, *Who shall muzzle this Bear?* Is it not ridiculous to think of laying a whole People under any Restraints, otherwise than by Means which naturally operate to the End wanted? Encouraging the Breed of black Cattle in *Ireland*, by permitting the Importation of them to *England*, is a natural, and almost the only Means, by which the Breed of Sheep in *Ireland* can be lessened. But we shall find, that it is far from being the Desire of certain Persons in *England*, to lessen the Breed of Sheep in *Ireland*. They rather chuse that *France* shall have *some Wool* from thence, than that they themselves should have neither *Wool nor Yarn* of that Kingdom, and so be obliged to give the *English Wool-Grower* a better Price for his *Wool*, and the *English Spinner* better Wages.

Ch. 114. *Memoirs of Wool, &c.* 173

lawfully export Wool and Woolen Manufactures from Ireland *. 3 George, c. 21.

3. Aug. 22, 1717. An Order of Council issued, that Salmon's the military Officers upon the Coast, should assist the *Chron.* Officers of the Customs in preventing the Exportation *Hist.* 1717. of Wool †.

C H A P. CXIV.

A Discourse on Trade and other Matters relative to it: By John Cary, Esq; Merchant of Bristol, 1717. Reprinted 1745.

1. **O**NE Fundamental in our Trade, is the keeping of our own Wool at home, and preventing the Wool of *Ireland* from being transported any where else, except to this Kingdom; which I am persuaded can never be done, by any other Method; but by a Register.

2. *Butter* is another Part of our Produce, for foreign Page 9. Markets; but the *Irish* have almost beaten us out of it. 'Twas the Act of Prohibition made formerly in *England*, that first ushered them into a foreign Trade; their sole Dependance before that Time being on our Markets; and from hence they were supplied with what they wanted;

* 'Whereas by 10, 11 *Will. III.* c. 10. one Moiety of the Penalties inflicted in this Case, was given to the Encouragement of setting up the Linen Manufactures in *Ireland*; which had turned to little Account of the said Manufactures, and served to discourage Prosecutions.' This Act therefore provided, 'that the same for the future should be to the Crown; and that Actions commenced on this Head in *Ireland*, should be tried by a Jury of any other County, than where the Fact was committed. The three first Discoverers (not being Owners or Part Owners of the said Wool or Woolen Manufactures) to be exempt from Punishment.'

† In this Year, and the next, Wool sold at an extraordinary Price, from what it had done for several Years before. Ch. 171. N^o. 1. §. 7, 8. N^o. 2.

wanted ; but being thereby prohibited from bringing hither their Cattle and other Provisions, they endeavoured to find a Vent for them in other Markets, which they did with good Success, and more Advantage ; the Sweetness whereof gave a Spring to their Industry, and put them on the Woolen Manufactures, which they also vended, where they exported their Provisions, till in time, it became so great and flourishing, as to give us Apprehensions it would endanger us.

3. *Logwood* is a Commodity much used in Dying, which pays 5 *l.* per Ton Custom, when imported, and draws back 3 *l.* 15 *s.* when shipped out again, by which Means the Dyers in *Holland* use it so much cheaper than ours do here ; now if it was imported Custom Free, and paid 25 *s.* per Ton, at its Exportation ; the Dyers there would use it so much dearer than ours ; and I think it would be well worth Inquiry, whether a Prohibition, either total or in part, of shipping out our Manufactures thither, and to the Northern Kingdoms, undy'd and undress'd, might not be made. I am sure it would be a great Advantage to this Kingdom, if it could be done, without running into greater Inconveniencies. The *Dutch* discourage their being brought in dy'd or dress'd, that they may thereby give Employment to their own People, and increase their Navigation by the Consumption of dye Stuff ; the same Reason should prevail with us to dye and dress them at home ; but this requires Consideration of a Committee of Trade, to hear what may be said both

* Ch. 30,

31.

Chap. 91.

§. 10. Note.

4. But a principal Means of Improvement to *England*, is, by strengthening the Laws against the Exportation of Wool, by such practicable Methods as may prevent its being done ; to which End, no Care can be too great, nor Methods laid too deep *. Laws, concerning Trade, whose sole Strength is Penalties, rarely reach the Thing aimed at. 'Tis one Thing to punish People, when a Fact is committed, and another to prevent

* Especially if it be true (which the *British Merchant* hath affirmed) that ' the FRENCH can be in NO WANT OF WOOL, tho' they should not be supplied with ANY from THIS NATION. FRANCE ', WITHOUT coming to us, CANNOT WANT WOOL for ANY Part of the WOOLEN MANUFACTURE.

* Ch. 105.

§. 12.

§. 14.

vent their doing it, by putting them, as it were, under an Inability. Now where the Welfare of the Kingdom lies so much at Stake, certainly it cannot be thought grievous to compel Submission to good Methods, though they may seem troublesome at first.

5. And that we may the better perceive the Mischiefs that attend the carrying of Wool abroad unwrought to other Nations, let us consider the Consequences thereof, in what is shipped to *France* *. ————— I know many Methods have been thought of, to prevent this pernicious Mischief; but all the Laws I have yet seen, seem to reach but half Way. They depend too much on Force and Penalties, and too little on Method. We must begin deeper, and secure it from the Time of its growing, till 'tis wrought up into Manufacture; and I think nothing less than a Register^a to be kept in every^a County will do it. Ch. 105.
§. 12.

6. Nor will this be attended with so much Trouble and Charge to the Nation in general, or to private Persons in particular, as may at first be thought. The Time of Sheering being once a Year, those who keep Sheep, may give Notice to the Officer appointed for that District, of the Number of Sheep they have to Sheer, and the Day whereon they intend to do it, that so he may be present to see the Fleeces weighed, and charge them therewith; which Charge must remain upon them till they sell their Wool, and give Notice hereof to the Office; when the next Buyer must be charged; and so *toties quoties*, till it comes into the Hands of him that works it up; and all this may be done by the Officers of Excise, in such a Manner, as may cost the Nation Page 37.
little.

7. And to prevent Frauds, let no Parcel of Wool above such a Weight, as the Parliament shall think fit, be carried from Place to Place but in the Day-time, &c. and the same Method must also be pursued in *Ireland*, till it is either used there, or shipped hither. And if the Wool of BOTH Kingdoms, by these or any other Methods,

* Here Mr. Cary transcribes *verbatim* W. S. Gent. 1656³, §. 4.
and W. C. 1671¹. These, it seems, were good Authorities¹ Ch. 51.
with him; the *British Merchant* he was either wholly a §. 3, 4, 5,
Stranger to, or did not at all regard. 6, 7.

thods, could be secured from being carried abroad, our Manufactures would find a surer Vent in foreign Markets, and yield better Prices. And the Wool of *France* would lye on their Hands, and become almost useles; the Credit of the Nation would be raised, and our Factories abroad courted, as much as formerly they have been; *because* the Manufactures we ship out, are such as no Nation can be without, nor *can they then be well supply'd elsewhere*; they are not Things only for Pleasure, but for Use, and both the Rich and the Poor stand in need of them; whilst the Profit of this pernicious Practice of shipping out the Wool, is sunk in the Pockets of private Men, whom former Laws accounted Felons.

Page 38.

8. Besides, 'tis well known, that the exporting our Wool, hath by the ill Consequences thereof, abated * its Price at home. This hath been observed by Calculations † made by considerable Men; and the Reason is, *because* those Countries, whither it is shipped, being thereby enabled to work up much larger Quantities of their own, the Sale of our Manufactures is grown slack, and we have been forced to sell them cheaper, which beats down the Prices both of WOOL and LABOUR; whereas, if we had kept our WOOL at home, this had been prevented. Our Forefathers were well aware of this, when they made Laws to prohibit the Exportation of Wool.

Page 69.

9. Some Sorts of coarse Cloth the *Portuguese* do make. Both *Venice* and *Genoa* have made some Attempts on a

Page 71.

Woolen Manufacture, being furnished with Wool from *Alicant*, and those Eastern Parts of *Spain*. The *Dutch* Trade consists rather in buying and selling, than in Manufactures². *Hamburgh* vends great Quantities of our Cloth. *Poland* also takes off many of our Manufactures by *Dantzick*. It hath but little Wool * of its own, and that chiefly in *Ukrania*. In *Sweden*, the Sale of our Cloth hath been lessened, by their loading it with great Duties, on Purpose to encourage a Manufacture of their own; their Wool is coarse; however, the late King encouraged the wearing it, by his own Example. The

French

* See

Ch. 94.

* See

Chap. 119.

§. 5. Note.

* It may be proved, that the Price of *Wool* hath abated, from the Time of its being prohibited to be exported.

† Had this Writer given any Instances, in Proof of this Assertion, it would have been more satisfactory, than his manner of reasoning, in order to evince the Truth of it.

Ch. 114. *Memoirs of Wool, &c.* 177

French Trade hath every Age grown less profitable to our Woolen Manufactures, as the Inhabitants make wherewith to supply both themselves and other Nations; which they COULD NOT DO^b, were they not furnished^b Ch. 105. with WOOL from HENCE and IRELAND, their OWN §. 12, 14. being UNFIT TO WORK BY ITSELF. *France* is like a Tavern, with whom we spend what we get by other Nations. They prohibit our Manufactures, in order to set up the like among themselves, which we encourage, by furnishing them with Wool.

10. But let due Care be taken to prevent their being supplied with Wool from hence and from *Ireland*, and we shall soon see an Alteration therein: 'Tis true, they have Wool of their own: But they CANNOT work it without OURS or IRISH. As for the *Dutch*, I take them to be, as no good Planters, so no good Manufacturers^c. Ch. 94. The *Flanderskins* were once famous in the Art of Cloth-making, which they carried on by the Wool they fetched hence*. But *Edward III.*, by keeping our Wool at home †, put a Stop to that Manufacture. If therefore the prohibiting our Wool to be carried out, had, at that Time, so good an Effect and Consequence, against those People ‡, why should not our Care to prevent its being carried out now, have the same against the *French*? We cannot, indeed, hinder them from the *Spanish*, but we may from our own and *Irish*.

11. As for *Sweden*, I am apt to think their Manufactures will come to little. And as for *Germany*, the Woolen Manufacture is not so natural to them as the Linen, which they would keep close to, if we gave them Encouragement, by wearing it here, and sending it to our Plantations, which would be more advantageous to us, than by the Use of Muslins and Calicoes, to put them upon fencing with us at our own Weapons, which they very unwillingly undertake. The Woolen Manufactures in

* And from all other Parts of *Europe*.

† See this Gentleman's Ignorance of the true History of *Edw. III.* in this Particular; Chap. 5, 6, 7.

‡ This had been a good Argument, if true; but being utterly false, it proves nothing but the Author's Ignorance in this particular Part of the History of the *English Woolen Trade*.

in *Italy* are but small, and those chiefly among the *Venetians*, something among the *Genoese*; these we cannot hinder being supply'd with Wool from those Parts of *Spain* which are near them, except we could promote a Con-

tract with the *Spaniard* * for all he hath; and if it should be objected, that we should then have too much, 'tis better to burn the Overplus at the Charge of the Publick (as the *Dutch* do their Spices *) than to have it wrought up abroad, which we can't otherwise prevent.

§. 4. Note. Page 88. 12. A Committee of Trade would be of great Use and Service, 1st, to the Parliament, in framing Laws relating to Trade; and 2dly, also to the Government, in the Treaties they make with foreign Nations. As to the first, it hath been thought, that when that great and glorious Assembly hath meddled with Trade, they have left it worse than they found it; and the Reason * is, because the Laws relating to Trade, require more Time to look into their distant Consequences, than a Session will admit; whereof we have had many Instances.

13. To begin with the *French* Trade; In the 22d *Charles II*, a new Impost was laid upon Wines, viz. 8 *l. per* Ton on the *French*, and 12 *l. per* Ton on *Spanish* and *Portuguese*. This Difference (with the low Subsidies, put on their Linens, by former Acts, in respect to those of other Places) was a great Means of bringing the Balance of that Trade so much against us, as it was for many Years.

Page 89. 14. In the 14th of *Charles II*, Logwood was charged with a Duty of 5 *l. per* Ton, and at the same Time, gave a Drawback of 3 *l. 15 s. per* Ton to all that should be exported, whereby Foreigners use it so much cheaper in their Manufactures, than ours here.

Page 90. 15. By Statute 4, 5 *W. and M.* 20 *s. per* Ton was laid on *Lapis Calaminaris* dug here and exported, on an Information

* So far as there is Truth in this Observation, the chief Reason, as I take it to be, is a Diffidence, which Gentlemen have of their own Judgment, and their too implicit Reliance on others, who by their Profession, are supposed to be best acquainted with such Matters, but who always governing themselves by some particular Attachments of their own, and never failing on such Occasions, to assert very positively what makes for their Side of the Question, do generally carry the Point.

formation given to the House of Commons, that it *was not to be had any where else* *; the Merchants set forth, that such a Duty would bring in nothing to the Crown, but be a total Bar to its Exportation; yet the Act passed; and we were like to have made a fatal Experiment; for till the Stat. 7, 8 *Will. III.* which reduced it to two Shillings *per* Ton, the Exportation ceased; and in the mean Time, those Places which had been discouraged from digging and calcining it, because we underfold them, set again to work, and supplied the Markets, where we vended ours.

16. What Injury was done by the Act 9, 10 *W. III.* ^{Ch. 78} for the more effectual preventing the Importation of foreign Bone Lace, &c. doth sufficiently appear by the Preamble of that made 11, 12 ^{Ch. 87} of the same same Reign, for repealing it three Months after the Prohibition of our ^{P. 3.} Woolen Manufactures in *Flanders* (which was occasioned by it) should be taken off; but I don't understand it is yet done; and it may prove an irrecoverable Loss to the Nation. ^{§. 15.}

17. As to foreign Treaties, such a Committee would be highly useful; the Representations made by private Merchants (who generally differ, as their Interests clash with each other) tending rather to distract than to inform the Government; this would not be, if their first Applications

* It appears to have been a favourite Notion of Mr. *Whitlock's*, ' that *Lapis Calaminaris* (by which Copper is turned into Brass) was not found in other Parts of *Europe*, besides *England*, except in *Bobemia*, so far within the Land, that it would not quit the Cost of Carriage to any Port.' This, it seems, proved a Mistake. And is not the Affair, of our Wool, almost a parallel Case? Is not the Exportation thereof prohibited *absolutely*, upon the like Pretence, and with as little Foundation of Truth? The Exportation of it indeed has not therefore ceased, nor perhaps, upon the whole, abated. And if so; that this Prohibition has only been a Means of increasing the Growth thereof in some other Parts, is, I think, beyond all Question. For Instance, when, as the British Merchant tells us, the *French* by their Demands for Wool in *Turkey*, advanced the Price thereof 150 *per Cent.* would not that naturally encourage the Breed of Sheep there, and consequently increase their Quantity of Wool? ^{White: lock's Memoirs, pag. 642, 643.} ^{Ch. 105; §. 6.}

cations were made to an experienced Committee, who had Judgment enough to extract out of them what was proper to be offered; by which Means our Demands might be rendered short and comprehensive.

Page 93.

18. We have natural Advantages in Trade, above other Nations, besides the Benefit of our Situation; *the Foundation of our Woolen Manufactures* being, as it were, PECULIAR to our own Growth, and MAY be retained amongst OURSELVES. An Advantage the French HAVE NOT; whose Wealth arising chiefly from the Exportation of Wines, Brandy, Salt, Paper, Silks, Linens; both we, and other Nations, have made such a Progress in them all since the War began, as to render theirs less sought for; whereas, nothing but our Neglects and ill Management can let our Neighbours into our Manufactures, which we may soon put a Stop to, by securing OUR WOOL at home.

Page 96.

Whether the Price of Labour is an Hindrance to Improvements in our Products and Manufactures.

19. I will here consider a Question that hath arisen, and I have heard debated sometimes by Men of good Understanding, which is, whether the Labour of the Poor being so high, does not hinder Improvements in our Product and Manufactures. I am of Opinion, that both our Product and Manufactures may be carried on to Advantage, without running down the Labour of the Poor.

20. As to our Product, I am of Opinion, that the running down the Labour of the Poor, is no Advantage to it, nor is it the Interest of that Part of the Kingdom, called *England*, to do it; nor can the People there live on so low Wages, as they do in other Countries; for we must consider, that Wages must bear a Rate in all Nations to the Price of Provisions, and Provisions to the Price of Lands*; for it cannot be imagined, that the Farmer who gives 20 s. an Acre for his Land, can afford Wheat as low as he whose Lands, equally good and fruitful, cost him but 5 s. an Acre; this is the Case of *England*, whose Lands yielding great Rents, require good

* It is a great Mistake to think, that either the Price of Land, or Labour, or Provisions, is arbitrary; there is a Market Rate for them all, which they naturally find; all violent Attempts to limit or alter the Course whereof, are fruitless and injurious.

Ch. 114. *Memoirs of Wool, &c.* 181

good Prices for the Product, and this good Price is the Freeholders Advantage. And therefore,

21. As to our Manufactures, I am of Opinion, that Page 98.
they may be carried on to Advantage without running down the Price of Labour. Improvements and fresh Devices are far better Expedients. New Projections are every Day set on Foot, as in many other Things, so to render the Woollen Manufacture easy, and which should be rendered cheaper by the Contrivance of the Manufacturers, not by falling the Price of Labour; nor in Order to this, by running down the Price of our Growth and Product, that so Provisions and Materials may be cheap; for that is no Advantage to the *Inland Trade* of this Kingdom, but the contrary. Page 100.

22. If the Shopkeeper, for Instance, has a good Trade*, he spends proportionably in Flesh, Butter, Cheese, Corn, &c. This helps the Farmers Market.— And by this Means, he is enabled to give his Landlord a better Rent, who may then keep a more plentiful Table, spend more Wine, Fruit, &c. with which he is furnished from the City, suit himself and his Family oftner, and carry on a greater Splendor in every Thing; the Farmer, according to his Condition, may do the same, give higher Wages to the Labourers, employed in Husbandry, who may then live better, and buy new Cloaths oftner, instead of patching up old ones; by this Means, the Manufacturers will be encouraged to give a better Price for Wool and Labour; this likewise will encourage the Merchants to increase their Exports, when they shall find a quick Vent for their Imports; but *when Trade deadens in the Fountain, when the GENTLEMEN and FARMERS are kept low, EVERY ONE in his Order, feels it.*

M 3

C H A P.

* Which, by the Way, he cannot have, but through the Landlord and his Tenants.

C H A P. CXV.

Acts and Occurrences 1717--19.

1. *AN Act for the further preventing ——— &c. and for the more effectual Transportation of Felons, and unlawful Exporters of Wool, &c.* 4 Geo. c. 11. *

2. *An Act against clandestine running of Goods, &c.* 5 Geo. c. 11. †

3. *June*

Outlets of Wool, in certain Cases, to be transported, for seven Years.

* *This Statute enacts,* ' That from and after the 20th Day of January 1717, if any Person shall be in Prison for want of sufficient Bail, for unlawful Exportation of Wool and Woolfells, and shall refuse to appear and plead to a Declaration or Information to be delivered to such Person or Persons, or to the Goaler, Keeper, or Turnkey of the said Prison, for the said Offence, by the Space of one Term, Judgment shall be entred against him by Default; and in Case of Judgment so obtained by Default, Verdict or otherwise, and the Person or Persons not paying the Sum recovered against him or them, for the said Offence, within three Months, after entering up of such Judgment, the Court before whom such Judgment shall be obtained, shall by Order of Court, order such to be transported, in the same manner as Felons, for seven Years.

† *This Act recites,* among other Things, that ' whereas Ships or Vessels of fifty Tuns or under, laden with foreign customable, or prohibited Goods, pretending to be bound to foreign Parts, but in Reality to run their Goods on Shore, and export Wool, do frequently lie hovering on the Coasts of this Kingdom; ' it therefore enacts in such Case, ' That a Custom-House Officer may go on Board every such Vessel, so hovering within the Limits * of any Port, and demand to take an Account of the Lading, and Security from the Master, in a Bond of treble the Value thereof, to proceed on such Voyage, Wind and Weather permitting, and land such Goods in, and at some foreign Port; and in Case of Refusal to enter into such Bond, or having entered into such Bond, he shall not depart, and proceed regularly on such Voyage, as soon as Wind or Weather shall permit (unless otherwise suffered by the Collector, &c.) then all such Goods may, by any Officer of the Customs, by Direction of the Collector,

* Ch. 118.
§. 6. Note.

Ch. 115. *Memoirs of Wool, &c.* 183

3. *A. D.* 1718. *June* 8. Sir *George Byng*, with the *Salmon's* Fleet under his Command, sailed from *St. Helens* for the *Mediterranean*. And *July* 31; fell upon the *Spanish Fleet*, *Chron. Hist.* 1718. consisting of twenty six Men of War, near *Syracusa*, and took and destroyed about fifteen of them.

4. *November* 11. The Parliament met, when the King acquainted them, that the *Spaniards*, having rejected all amicable Proposals, and broken the most solemn Engagements for the Security of our Commerce, it had been found necessary for our naval Forces to check their Progress.

5. *Dec.* 16. A War was published against the King of *Spain*.

C H A P.

lector, or other principal Officer of the Port, be taken out of such Vessel, and brought on Shore and secured; and in Case the said Goods are customable, the Duties shall be paid for the same. But if Wool or any prohibited Goods are found, the same shall be forfeited, as also the Ship or Vessel, &c.

And whereas in the Preamble to the Act 1 *W. and M.* c. 32 ^{1.} for the better preventing the Exportation of ^{Ch. 72.} Wool, &c. Wool, and Woolfels, &c. are enumerated; §. 3. and in the enacting Part, which relates to the carrying Wool Coastwise, *Wool only* is mentioned; which has given a Handle for Evasions. This therefore is appointed to extend the same to Woolfels, Mortlings, Shortlings, Yarn made of Wool, Wool-flocks, Fuller's Earth, Fulling Clay, and Tobacco-pipe Clay carried Coastwise. And, to supply another Defect of 10 *Will.* III. c. 10. enacts, that all *Wool* laid on Shore near the Sea, or any navigable River in *Ireland*, with Intent to be conveyed into foreign Parts, shall be forfeited.

C H A P. CXVI.

The Weavers Pretences examined; being a full and impartial Enquiry into the Complaints of their wanting Work, and the true Causes assigned; with some Observations on the Silk, Stuff, and Callicoe Trades in England, Holland, &c. BY A MERCHANT, 1719.*

- Page 7. 1. **T**HE Complaints of the Weavers we can know only by their Murmurings in Corners, and their riotous Actions in the open Streets. They say they have not Work; and their Pretence is, that the wearing of Callicoe is the Reason of it.
2. 'Tis plain, indeed, that all of them have not Work, or are not employed in such Work as they ought to be; otherwise, we should not see such Numbers of them committing such brutish Actions in the Streets, as would be a Scandal to any civilized Nation. But, I say, tho' all of them have not Work, yet it does not follow, that they *cannot have* it; for no doubt they might, were they but as willing, as some Gentlemen are to employ them, as appears by an Advertisement in the *Gazette* on the 13th Instant.
3. But however, to examine the Matter thoroughly, viz. That the wearing of printed Callicoes is the Occasion of their wanting Work. I answer, first, in respect to Woolen or Worsted weaving, it's impossible it should

* Among the various Tracts, which, on Account of these Memoirs, I have had occasion to peruse, I have constantly found those to be most replete with Absurdities, the Authors whereof have thought fit to conceal their Names, and instead thereof, write MERCHANT. Of which we have a flagrant Instance in the Tract before us. Yet is not this to be understood as a Reflection upon that eminent and worthy Body of Men in the gross, however it may prove, as to Particulars, the Truth of what has been observed by the *British Merchants* and others, viz. 'That the MERCHANT may have a distinct Interest from that of his Country.'

should be so ; for if it were, the undeniable Consequence would be, that Wool would fall much in Price, and be but a Drug at Market : But yet it is well known, that notwithstanding the vast Quantities that we have im- Page 9, ported of late from *Ireland*, it's quite the contrary ; it having been dearer for these two Years past, and scarcer at Market, than it had been for many Years before.

4. Beside, the Prices of printed Callicoes do so far exceed the Prices of Woolen or Worsted Stuffs, that they do not interfere with them ; for those that buy Stuffs, buy them for Cheapness, which I am sure cannot be said of those that buy Callicoes ; of which Truth our Wives make us sensible, to our Cost.

5. And as to Silk-weaving ^m, the Price of Callicoe ^m Ch. 117. is as much below that of Silk, that it cannot be truly \$. 14, 15. said, that Callicoes hinder the wearing of Silk * ; and it's very likely, that many of those that buy Callicoe, would not buy any Thing else instead of it, if there was no such Thing in Being as Callicoe ; being induced to buy Page 10. more for the Sake of Variety, than out of any Occasion they have for it. Besides, Silks that are worn here, may be said to be as much a foreign Commodity, as Callicoes that are printed here ; most of which being first made in our own Colonies in the *East-Indies*, at a very small Price, which being (in the common Sense of the Word) so many Times manufactured over again here, as increases their Value to a very great Degree, and maintains Thousands of poor Families : And great Quantities are exported to foreign Parts, to the great Profit and Advantage of this Kingdom ; and as to the printed Linens, the major Part of them, are entirely both *British* Growth and Manufacture.

6. But the Silks we import, whether wrought or unwrought, we buy at dear Rates of Foreigners, either with Money or Bills of Exchange, which is the same Page 11. Thing

* It is pleasant to observe what Arguments Persons can take up with, rather than forego a Point of private Profit. One would almost have imagined, that a Race of the ancient *Picts* had remained in the Kingdom to these Days, for whose Use only, (because they would be reconciled to no other Cloathing) these painted Callicoes were introduced, which therefore interfered neither with the Use of Silks nor Worsteds.

Thing in Effect to the Nation. The Importation of *Dutch, Italian, and smuggling of French* wrought Silks, damages the Silk-weaving here, much more than the Callicoes do; and were our Silk Weavers as much concerned for the Improvement of the Manufacture, as they are for their own particular Gain, no doubt, but the Importation of wrought Silks would greatly diminish.

7. But the grand Cause of the Weavers wanting Work, is the Covetousness of both Masters and Journey-men, in taking so many Prentices for the Sake of the Money they have with them; not considering, whether they shall have Employment for them or not. Then again, Journeymen Weavers come from many Parts of *England to London*, for the Sake of easier Work and greater Wages, so that their Numbers are (as I am credibly informed) near double what they were ten Years ago. These Things considered, 'tis no Wonder that some of them have not Work; especially at this Juncture, when our Inland Trade hath been damp'd by the Noise of an Invasion, and the Foreign, by the late Rupture with *Spain*. But as the publick Affairs have so good an Aspect on our Side, we may justly hope, that our Trade will soon return with uncommon Vigour.

8. And there is another Cause yet, which I had almost forgot, though common almost in every Body's Mouth; that is, when they have a Flush of Work, in the Spring, or other Times (as a Flux and Ebb is common to almost all Trades) then many of them will not work above three Days in the Week; running away to Alehouses, drinking and gaming away their Money, and wasting their Time, and getting into ill Habits, so that 'tis no Wonder, that their Families may want, when the Time of Ebb comes.

9. The many Duties on printed Callicoe do very much increase the publick Revenue, and the Monies therefrom are appropriated, by Parliament, for the Security and Reinbursement of great Numbers of Persons who have contracted with the Government at several Times. The Printing of Callicoes and Linens occasions a great Consumption of Gauls, Gums^a, and many Sorts of dying Wares, to the great Encouragement of the *Turkey and West-India* Trades.

10. Tho

10. The *East-India* Trade in general, and the Importations of *Callicoes* in particular, does not only increase the Wealth of the Nation, but is a great Encouragement to Navigation, and to building and fitting out large Ships; and they lay in such plentiful Stores, that there is hardly any one Trade in *London*, that does not receive some Benefit by the fitting out of an *East-India* Ship. As I said before, great Quantities of printed *Callicoes* are exported to our great Profit and Advantage; but there are some Trades especially, which cannot be carried on with any Success without them; as the *Guinea*, *West-India*, and *South-Sea*; which Trades every one must allow to be highly beneficial to the Nation. And as our own People find by Experience, that nothing will wash so well, or answer their Ends in many respects, as *Callicoe*, is it not *unjust*, as well as *unreasonable*, in any Body, to desire, or endeavour to force it from them? Page 14. §. 5. Note.

11. Our Neighbours, the *Dutch*, are a wise People, and without doubt, understand all the different Branches of Trade, and their own Interest, as well as any Nation in the World; and though they have many considerable Manufactories of their own, especially of *Silk*, yet they have not prohibited, or so much as laid any high Duty upon any foreign Manufacture; well knowing, that excessive Duties are great Encouragements to running; and that Prohibitions make People more eager for that which is forbid. Ch. 117. §. 20.

12. May not many other Trades make Pretences, as well as the Weavers? May not the Malsters and Brewers rise up against the Vintners, because they sell a foreign Commodity, which hinders the Sale of Malt Liquors? And may not the Alehouse-keepers against the Distillers, because their Spirits not only hinder the Sale of their Beer and Ale, but enliven, heat, and fuddle, sooner and more effectually? And why may not the Weavers of *Norwich* and *Coventry* rise against those of *Spittle-fields*, because their Stuffs and Silks hinder the Sale of their Crape and Tammies? And why not the Butchers against the Fishmongers? And so on, to the End of the Chapter.

C H A P. CXVII.

The just Complaints of the poor Weavers truly represented, with as much Answer as it deserves, to a Pamphlet lately written against them, Entitled, The Weavers Pretences, &c. 1719.

- Page 3. 1. **W**HEN an Enemy is conquered in the Field, we never want People at home to kill them over again. Clamour is an useful Weapon; and in the Case of the *poor Weavers*, our Scribblers take Advantage to fall upon them, after the *less barbarous* Trainedbands have done with them. The Business is plain, the poor Men were first wrong in raising a Tumult, that's certain; and secondly, they were beaten, that's as certain; and therefore (which is excellent Logic) they have not the least Reason to complain.
- Page 4. 2. The Author of *The Pretences, &c.* ^a says, *their* Complaints can only be known by their Murmuring in Corners, and their riotous Actions in the Streets. But
- Ch. 116. § 1. I must take him up *upon his first Head*; for though I agree, that the Weavers have no justifiable Reason to rebel, I must not say, or *let him say unreprieved*, that they have no reason to complain. For nothing is more true than this, that the Complaint of the *Spittle-field Weavers* is a *National Grievance*, a Thing Trade groans under, and which, if not speedily redress'd, our Woolen Manufactures, all over *Britain*, will, in Time, sink under; and it is very hard the *Drapers*, and *East-India* Jobbers, who have thus employed a Mercenary to rail, should go about to prepossess the Nation, in Prejudice of so just a Complaint against their own Encroachments, while the whole Body of the trading Part of the Kingdom are concerned so nearly in the Matter; and while all our Manufactures are in the utmost Danger from the Encroachment of an upstart Importation of foreign Goods, which by the Folly of our Women, is grown up even to a Trade-Plague among us, infects our *Inland Commerce*, and makes the *home Consumption* of our own Manufactures

factures languish and decay, in such a Manner, as bids fair to starve our Poor, and put the whole Woollen Trade of this Nation, which is so considerable, and on which we so much depend, into the utmost Confusion.

3. Is it possible this Man can tell us, that the wearing Page 7.
so many printed Callicoes is the Cause of the Complaint of the Weavers; and yet at the same Time, tell us, we should have known nothing of it, but from their Murmurings and Riots? And is it possible, that he can have the Face to say, that the wearing of Callicoes is the Cause of their Complaint, and yet at the same Time, say, that their Complaint is not just? When he cannot be ignorant, that the Complaint against the printed Callicoes, is the Complaint of the whole Nation*; not the

* ' Since most People have been lately employed in giving their Opinions upon this melancholy Subject of the Weavers, both in Word and Writing, some imputing the Decay of their Trade to the Callicoes, &c. some to one Thing, some to another; I hope the Reader will allow me to throw in my Mite among the rest; for with humble Submission to their Judgments, I think they have all put it upon the wrong Foot. *Ker's Memoirs, vol. 1. p. 103.*

' In Order therefore to find out the true Cause of this Decay of Trade, which produces so many Complaints to the Parliament, and indeed every where; that a proper Remedy may be applied, I shall first let the Reader know, Page 104.
' why I think those cannot be the just Causes of the Weavers Complaints, which have been lately assigned; and then I shall endeavour to let him know what the true Reason must be, not only of the Weavers Want of Business, and Decay of Trade, but of all other Manufactories whatsoever.

' It is agreed, that the Womens late universal Wear of Callicoe and stamped Linen is the first Cause; not counting that they have given more Reprisals to the Weavers, by assuming the old *Irish* Garb, of Riding Hood and Mantle at the same Time; and Quilted Petticoats, which all Ranks and Qualities have run into within these five Years, instead of Scarfs and Hives, which are not worn, ten Parts in eleven, so much as they used to be; and methinks they ought to be thanked for their Hoops too, as making their other Petticoats, which are generally of Wool, at least, lined with it, much wider than formerly.

' And this Answer alone, in Behalf of the Linen, ought to favour the Petitioners from Scotland for that End; at least

the particular Complaint of *Spittlefields*; with this Difference, and no other; that some of the poorer Sort of Weavers in *Spittlefields* have been less patient, and perhaps that too, because more severely pinched by the want of Employment, than the other Manufacturers; and because, their Subsistence here in *London* not being so easy as in other Places, they were less able to support the want of Work.

4. How absurdly then do they argue, who would confine the Grievance of this *Callicoe Plague*, for I can call it no less, to the poor Weavers of *Spittlefields*; as if, because the rest of the *Weavers* and Manufactures in *England* have been less riotous and tumultuous, therefore that the wearing of Callicoes, as Callicoes are now worn, was no Grievance to them; or that they were less sensible of the Decay of their Manufactures, and the approaching Ruin of their Trade, for their being silent and dutifully submissive, 'till a proper Time comes to speak; this is first intimating that the Callicoes, as now worn, are no Grievance, which any Man of common Sense would be ashamed to say; and, secondly, it suggests, which for ought I know, may be true, that if the Country Manufacturers were as unable to support the Decay of their Trade, as the *Spittlefields* Men are, they would be as riotous as they.

Page 12. 5. But I come nearer to the Matter in Hand, *viz. The Weavers wanting Work, and the Callicoes being the Cause of it.* Both these he would fain deny: But Truth staring him in the Face, he falters in the first, and is bound to

‘least prevent all Prohibitions and Restrictions upon it; being the Product of *Britain*, and even *English* Ground more than formerly, and consequently employing as many Hands proportionably in Spinning, Whitening, Printing, Stamping, and even in Weaving, &c. as the other does; so as to relieve the *Wool* at the Expence of the *Linen*, would be to plunder one Subject to relieve another.

‘And what shall be assigned as the true Reason of the Decay of Trade, which may be called universal (for the *Linen-Drapers*, *Printers*, *Stampers*, *Soap-Boilers*, &c. will have as much Reason to cry out very soon, as the *Weavers*, &c.) if we do not reckon the Interruption of our Trade with *Muscovy* and *Spain* to be one, if not the chief Cause.’

to acknowledge, tho' as lamely as he can, *that some of them do want Work.* Now I say, that *more* of them are without Work, than have been without it, since the Time that *East India* printed Callicoos were prohibited; Ch. 87. and I shall add, that as the printing them here met P. S. 14. with Encouragement, so in Proportion, the *British* Manufactures declined and decay'd, and so as the *Manufactures* decay'd, the *Weavers*, who are the *Manufacturers*, decay'd of Course.

6. This Thing is not only to be believed, but is capable of Demonstration, and will, I doubt not, be demonstrated in its proper Time and Place, (*viz.*) The prohibiting Importation of *East-India* printed Callicoos and Silks, in the Year 1701, sensibly recovered and restored the *Weavers*, who, at that Time, were in a most miserable ruined Condition, by Reason of the Loss of their Employment, that Trade being manifestly sunk by the general Use of printed Callicoos and Silks. Page 13.

7. As soon as the Parliament, in their great Concern for their poor Manufacturers, enquired into the Cause of the Complaints, they found them very just, and that the exorbitant Use of *East-India* Manufactures had greatly injured and impoverished our own; upon which they found, that it was a most just and reasonable Request of the Manufacturers, to have a Restraint put upon the Use of the said foreign Goods, and accordingly the Prohibition was passed.

8. 'Tis easy to demonstrate the Justice of the Demand, by the Consequence of the Grant. No sooner was the Prohibition granted, but the Manufactures revived, the *Weavers* recovered, the abandoned Streets were re-peopled, the Inhabitants, who were fled to seek Bread by other Employments, returned; *Spittlefields*, that looked before like a forsaken Place; and was growing apace into a Wilderness, became fertile, and was filled with Inhabitants like a populous City; nay, the Numbers exceeding the Extent of the Place, they spread themselves to *Hoxton*, to *Bednal-Green*, to *Stepney*, to *Southwark*, to *Canterbury*, and to *Norwich*. It would tell a long History to give an Account of the visible Difference, which this Prohibition of Callicoos made on the Countenance of Trade; and how innumerable Families,

lies, by their Diligence and Application, grew rich in the manufacturing of *English* Goods.

9. But as if this Nation was never to want a Set of Men to undo her ; no sooner were the *East-India* Chints, and printed Callicoes prohibited from abroad, but some of *Britain's* unnatural Children, who we call *Drapers*, set all their Arts to work, to evade the Law of Prohibition, to employ People to mimick the more ingenious *Indians* ; and to legitimate the Grievance, by making it a Manufacture. After which, to clench the Point against the Manufacturers, and perpetuate the Grievance, they prompted the laying a Tax upon the Improvement, so to make a Fund of the Oppression, and entail it on their Country for ever.

Page 15.

10. As this successful Evil increased (the Vanity of the People falling in with it) the *Weavers* and Manufacturers soon felt the Effect of it ; and as the restraining of Callicoes had raised them, as above, so the opening a new Sluice which let them in again, immediately affected the Consumption of our own Goods. Trade immediately felt a sensible Decay ; and the *Weavers* Ruin came gradually on ; the Callicoes and the Woollen Manufactures being like two Balances, when one Scale went down, the other went up, and when one went up, the other went down. Let any one that can support it with Reason, oppose this fair State of the Callicoe Case, if they can. And let our Author's affirming, that the wearing of Callicoes is not the Cause of the *Weavers* wanting of Work, be set in competition with it, for impartial Judges to determine of it.

11. To expose the poor *Weavers*, and make their Complaint for want of Work, appear more unjust, this wise Author tells us of a Publication in the *Daily Courant*, by which Notice was given, that all those *Weavers*, as were willing to work, might be employed by such and such Men at *Hoxton*, *Reading*, and other Places, in making of Sails. This was a good Publication for the Proprietors of the Sail-Cloth Work in those Places, to cry them up for Patriots, make their Undertaking popular, and bring down the Price of their Journeymen. But let any one that understands the Nature of Weaving, and the particular Works Men are brought up to, and capable of performing, judge of the Thing. How can they

they suppose that Men always used to work in Silk and Worsted, could on a sudden turn their Hands to make Sail Cloth; for tho' it be all called *Weaving*, yet there is as much Difference between the one and the other, almost, as between any two Trades; besides, I am informed, that several of our Men have been there to see for Work; and could not get any, but were told, that it was not *Silk* or *Worsted Weavers* that they wanted, but *Linen Weavers*. So that this is but a mere Bluster, contrived as above, to render the poor Men odious, and these sham Patriots popular.

12. The Author, in the next Place, carries on a great Page 17; Way his Insinuations in Favour of the Callicoes; and let us mark one of his Arguments, to illustrate his Judgment in the Question; that is in his tenth Page, where he says, our Silk Manufactures are as much a foreign Commodity, as the Callicoes printed here. The first Thing he says to confirm this, is, to tell us, that most of the Callicoes are made in our *own Colonies* in the *East Indies*.* Ch. 116; This wretched Piece of Trade-Nonsense either shews the §. 5. Capacity and Sense of the Writer, or his Want of Honesty, to impose such Stuff upon us; and may inform the World how little the Opposers of the *Weavers* have to say for their Cause. This poor ignorant Writer does not understand the Difference between a *Colony* and a *Factory*, and that there is no such Thing as a *British Colony* in the *East Indies*.

13. But next he tells us, the wearing of printed Cal- Page 20; licoes cannot be the Occasion of the *Weavers* wanting Work, so far as it respects the Woolen and Worsted Weavers; for then the undeniable Consequence would be, the Fall of the Price of *Wool*, and the making it a Drug at Market; and to clinch this, he affirms, at the End of it, which he cannot prove, and is in Fact false, viz. That *WOOL* is *dearer and scarcer at Market for these two * Years past, than it has been for many Years before*. He that affirms this, ought to prove it, and he ought to have told us fairly, what Price *WOOL* bore now

* Wool was dearer in the Years 1717 and 1718, than it had been for several Years before. (See Chap. 171).

Page 21. now † at Market, and what Price it bore three or ‡ four Years ago. But to come nearer to the Point, I refer the impartial Reader to enquire in *Blackwell-Hall*, and in the Warehouses of all the Wholesale Dealers, and let those Warehouses answer the Question, whether there is not an universal Glut of all our Manufactures at Market? And whether in Spite of the known and general Prosperity of Affairs abroad, there is not a great Damp upon our Manufactures, and the Demand exceedingly lessened? and how should the Weavers have a full Employ, when the Goods they sell have not a full Consumption, but lies upon Hand unfold? And this, I insist upon it, is a more regular, and more certain Rule to judge by, than that of the WOOL, which has another Incident * attending it, by which we may account for its Dearthness, tho' there was an universal want of Work among all the Manufacturers in *Great Britain*, and that is the excessive Destruction of our Commerce and Waste of our WOOL by *clandestine Exportation*, in spite of the best Laws and greatest Application to prevent it. Let him assure us, NO WOOL shall be exported and run into *France*, and then if the Price holds up, and the Quantity is scarce at Market, it would argue something in the present Case, but otherwise it cannot.

14. In the next Place, he undertakes to prove, that the wearing of Callicoes does not hinder the wearing
 ' Ch. 116. either of Woollen or Silk †; not of the former, because
 §. 4. 5. they are much dearer than Woollen; nor of the latter, because

† It was now fallen considerably from the Price of the two foregoing Years.

‡ Much about the Price it gave this Year. (See Chap. 171.)

* In 1717, when WOOL advanced considerably, an Order of Council issued, requiring the military Officers upon the Coasts, to assist those of the Customs, in preventing the
 ' Ch. 113. Runnage of WOOL †; which is an Argument of that illicit
 §. 3. Practice prevailing much about this Time, and accounts in Part for the then advanced Price of WOOL, agreeably to the Sentiments of this Writer. But I challenge and defy any one to instance in the Time, when WOOL selling well in *England*, there was not room to suppose, from other Circumstances, that it was at that very Time, exported, at least as much as at other Times.

because they are as much below the Price of Silk. This is only an Argument of his own Assurance and Folly. The very Weavers and Sellers of Callicoe will acknowledge, that all the mean People, the Maid Servants, and indifferently poor Persons, who would otherwise cloath themselves, and were usually cloathed in thin Womens Stuffs made at *Norwich* and *London*, or in Cantaloons and Crapes, &c. are now cloathed in Callicoe, or printed Linen; moved to it, as well for the Cheapness, as the Lightness of the Cloth, and Gaiety of the Colours. The Children universally, whose Frocks and Coats were all either made of Tammies worked at *Coventry*, or of striped thin Stuffs made at *Spittle-fields*, appear now in printed Callicoe, or printed Linen; let any one but cast their Eyes among the meaner Sort playing in the Streets, or of the better Sort at Boarding Schools, and in our Families; the Truth is too plain to be denied.

15. As to the richer Sort of People, Ladies, and even Persons of Quality, the fine Chints and painted Callicoes, as well *India*, as *English*, some of which are even dearer than Silk, have so far superseded the wearing of Silks, that they prefer them to the finest Damasks; and we need do no more, than appeal to the Drapers Wives, some of whom would perhaps think themselves affronted, not to be ranked with the best of our Gentry. I might take Notice here, how the Example of our Gentry was perhaps the first real Occasion of the Callicoes being so universally accepted, and worn among the common People; for there is an invincible Pride in the ordinary People, of being counted what they are not; they are almost led into all their Fashions, in Imitation of the Gentry; and therefore tho' it might be true, that some Ladies of Quality do wear Callicoes, more for the Sake of Variety, than any Thing else; yet the meaner Sort of People were first brought to wear them more, because they saw them worn by the Gentry, than for any Conveniency or real Liking they had to them at first themselves; that is to say, they wear them because it is the Fashion to do so. To say then, that no Body wears Callicoes, but as Superfluities, and that they do not buy the fewer Cloaths of Stuffs or Silk, is too gross a Fallacy to deserve a Reply.

16. It would move us to some Laughter, to hear this Author talk next of the many thousand Families which

are employed in the Printing, and as he calls it, *manufacturing the Callicoes over again in England*, who he seems much concerned for, and would recommend to our Compassion, as Persons not to be impoverished, or deprived of their Business and Employment; but this charitable good Christian does not remember, that at the same Time he is for starving the innumerable Families of the poor *Weavers*, in Favour of the *Callicoe Printers*. Now as to these great Numbers, I am well assured by those who have made it their Business to go through the whole Trade and examine it, that the utmost Number of Families, that can be reckoned up by the most impartial Men, as employed in the Trade of Printing and managing the said Callicoes, come to some less than 700; whereas the Families of *Weavers* and *Manufacturers* here in *London*, and in several Countries, where they were employed in Work, which this Printing of Callicoes is prejudicial to, amounts to above 100,000; besides that this last is a Work of but Yesterday, and so modern, that very few of those Persons employ'd in it, were originally brought up to it, but acquired it by Habit, having most of them been bred up to other Works, which it is easy for them to re-assume; so that were the Numbers equal, yet the unhinging the Callicoe Printers, who are so few, and have other Employment, can be no Way equal, or so much as to be named with the unhinging the *Weavers*, and sending their Families like a Flood of Beggars, to overspread the Nation.

Page 27. 17. In the next Place, we find he is as ill a Merchant, as he is a Manufacturer, as appears by a most scandalous Falshood affirmed by him, in saying the Silks we import, whether wrought or unwrought, are bought at *dear Rates* of Foreigners with Money. This is utterly false; we buy Silks as cheap as other Nations with our own Commodities*; the *Italian* and *Turkey* Merchants would have told him as much. But, says he, the grand Cause of the Weavers wanting Work, is the Covetousness both of Masters and Journeymen, in taking so many Apprentices, for the Sake of the Money they have with them. Then again, Journeymen *Weavers* come from many

* This was the Case formerly, but is less so now. (See Chap. 112. §. 3, 4. Note. Chap. 118. §. 5. Note.)

many Parts of *England* to *London*, for the Sake of easier Work and better Wages. So that their Numbers are said to be near double of what they were ten Years ago. In the first Place, few of the Masters take any Apprentices at all; and as for the Journeymen, where there is one that has Money with an Apprentice, there are fifty that have none at all. Page 29.

18. As to the Duty on Printed Callicoës, and the Revenue arising thence, the Parliament, who gave that Duty and made it a Fund, made it redeemable by Parliament. Further, besides the great Quantities of *Dutch* and *Indian* Callicoës, which pay no Duty at all, but are clandestinely run on Shore from *Holland*, the far greatest Part of those printed here, also pay no Duty neither; for the Callicoës are first pretended to be bought white at the Sale, for Exportation; then they are entered at the Custom-House, on Pretence of Exportation, then run ashore again, and carried to be printed, then pretended again to be sent abroad, and so the Duty on the Printing drawn back by Debenture; then they are clandestinely run on Shore again; and thus the Government is cheated both Ways, and this Money, instead of being appropriated to pay the Nations Debts, is put into the Smugglers Pockets, to the great Detriment of all fair Traders, and to the intolerable lessening of the Revenue. Page 32.

19. Of like insignificant Moment is the Pretence, that the Printing and Painting of Callicoës consumes a great Quantity of Gauls, Gums, * Dying Stuffs; as if * Ch. 116. the Dying the Wool, and the Silk and Woolen Stuffs, § 9. which this Trade of Callicoës destroys, did not consume a much greater Quantity of the same and other Materials. Let us be delivered from the Use of them here, we care not whither they send them, whether to *Africa*, *America*, *Germany*, or any where. Page 35.

20. But the *Dutch*, we are told, are a wise People, and yet do not prohibit any foreign Manufactures, tho' they have great Manufactures of their own. But differing Circumstances make all Nations walk by different Rules; the Manufactures of the *Dutch* are small and trifling compared to ours; their principal Dependance is upon their being the general Mart of *Europe* for all foreign Goods, as well to export, as import; they lay high Duties upon nothing, and prohibit nothing; but is this a

Rule to us, whose Dependance is upon the Woolen Manufacture, for the Subsistence and Employment of our Poor, as well as for the Encouragement of our Navigation and Commerce*? If we were to prohibit nothing, as is the Practice in *Holland*, what would become of our Trade in a few Years? And why do we limit our Fellow Subjects in *Ireland*, from exporting their own Goods? Why prohibit the *French* from importing theirs? The *Dutch* is no proper Example to us. If we were the mere Carriers of the World, as they are, and desire to be, it would be something to the Purpose, and we should do as they do; and if they were the greatest Manufacturers of the World, as we are, they would do just what we hope *Great Britain* will now do, viz. prohibit the Use of every foreign Manufacture, which interferes with their own.

C H A P. CXVIII.

Acts and Occurrences, 1719—27.

- Salmon's 1. *A. D. 1719. December.* This Month, a great
Chron. many Petitions were presented to the Houses of
Hist. 1719. Parliament, against printed Callicoos.
 2. *Jan. 26.* The King of *Spain* accepted the Conditions of Peace proposed to him by *Great Britain* and *France*.
 1720. 3. *A. D. 1720. May 19.* A Proclamation issued, for putting the Laws in Execution, against the Exportation of Wool, Fullers Earth, &c.

4. *An*

* He should have added, that *England* has no little Support by the Rents arising ordinarily from Wool itself—Whence follows one of these two Things necessarily, viz. 1. Either it is highly absurd to suffer any Interferings with the Woolen Manufacture for home Use, or for Exportation. 2. Or else it is improper to prohibit absolutely the Exportation of Wool; as, in such Case more especially, that must certainly hurt both the *Vent* and *Price* of this Commodity, whereon so much *Rent*, *Consumption*, *Supplies*, &c. is depending.

4. *An Act for ascertaining the Breadths, and preventing Frauds and Abuses in manufacturing Serges, Pladings, and Fingrums, and for regulating the Manufacture of Stockings, in that Part of Great Britain, called Scotland.* 6 Geo. c. 13.

5. *An Act for prohibiting the Importation of raw Silk, or Mohair Yarn, of the Product or Manufacture of Asia, except from Ports within the Dominions of the Grand Signior.* c. 14. *

6. *An Act to prevent Frauds and Abuses in the publick Revenues, &c.* c. 21. †

7. *An*

* *This Act recites, ' That in the Time of Ch. II. viz. by 12 Car. II. c. 18. it was permitted to continue the Importation of these Commodities from such Places as usual, viz. Marseilles, &c. although not of the very Growth of the said Places.' The Reason of which Indulgence, it says, was, ' because France at that Time exported very little Woolen Manufacture into Turkey, and was then supplied with great Quantities of Woolen Goods from England, for their own Use, and likewise with raw Silks and other Goods of Turkey, the Returns of English Woolen Manufactures.' Since which Time, the French, having turned the Tables upon England, brought from Turkey raw Silk, &c. which being carried into Italy, was imported into Great Britain, to the Discouragement of the Woolen Manufactures of the same, and the Encouragement of those of France; and therefore, this Law of Prohibition was enacted.*

† ' Whereas by 5 Geo. c. 11. ². to prevent the running * Ch. 115. of Brandy, and the Exportation of Wool, Vessels of fifty ⁵. 2. Tons or under, hovering on the Coasts, within the Limits of the Ports, were subject to certain Orders; and whereas such Ships and Vessels, to elude the Intent of that Law, do lye at Anchor, or hover on the Coasts, as near to the said Limits as may be, whereby the Masters of such Ships or Vessels, have better Opportunities of making their Signals to the Exporters of Wool, &c.; it is therefore enacted, that in Case Ships of that Burden, laden wholly, or in Part, with Brandy, &c. are found hovering within two Leagues of the Shore, it shall, and may be lawful, for the Commander of any of his Majesties Ships or Frigates, or armed Sloops, appointed for the Guard of the Coasts, or for the Commander of any Yatch, &c. in the Service of his Majesty's Customs, to deal with such Vessels, as

N 4

by

See 7. *An Act to preserve and encourage the Woollen and Silk*
Ch. 130. *Manufactures of this Kingdom; and for more effectually*
employing the Poor, by prohibiting the Use and Wear of all
printed, painted, stained, or dyed Callicoes, in Apparel,
Household Stuff, Furniture, or otherwise, after the 25th
Day of September 1722, (except as therein is excepted)
*7 Geo. c. 7. **

Salmon's 8. *A. D. 1721. Aug. 10.* The King acquainted
Cbron. the Parliament, that he had renewed all the Treaties of
Hist. 1721. Commerce with *Spain*, on the same Foot as they were
 settled before the late War.

9. *Oct. 19.* He recommended to them, the making
 the Exportation of our own Manufactures, and the Im-
 portation of the Commodities used in manufacturing
 them, as easy as might be. He recommended also, the
 encouraging the Importation of naval Stores from our
 Plantations in *America*.

10. *Feb. 1.* It was moved in the House of Peers,
 that one Occasion of the Navy Debt, was the Ships be-
 ing victualled abroad, but it was carried in the Negative.

11. *An Act giving further Encouragement for the Im-*
portation of naval Stores. 8 Geo. c. 12.

12. *An Act for the Encouragement of the Silk Manu-*
factures of this Kingdom. c. 15. †

13. *An*

‘ by the said 5 *Geo. c. 11.* if within the Limits of any Port,
 ‘ it might be dealt withal. Further, a Master of a Vessel
 ‘ suffering *WOOL* to be illegally taken in from the Shore, if
 ‘ convicted thereof, besides former Penalties, shall suffer six
 ‘ Months Imprisonment. *A Clause to the same Effect for*
 ‘ *Ireland.*’

* This Act recites, ‘ That the wearing and using of Cal-
 ‘ licoes printed, painted, &c. did manifestly tend to the
 ‘ Detriment of the Woollen and Silk Manufactures, and to
 ‘ the Increase of the Poor of the Kingdom; and therefore
 ‘ enacted, that after *Dec. 25, 1722*, none should wear in
 ‘ *Great Britain*, any Garment of printed, &c. Callicoe,
 ‘ under Penalty of 5 *l.* &c. That after this Time, no such
 ‘ Callicoe should be used in any Chair, Bed, &c. unless
 ‘ made up before. The like Prohibition was also extended
 ‘ to all Stuff made of, or mixed with Cotton †, printed, &c.
 ‘ but not to Callicoes dyed all blue.

† *Except Muslins, Neckcloths and Fustians.*

† This Act gave large Allowances to the Exporters of
 Silk

13. *An Act for the better qualifying the Manufacturers of Stuffs or Yarn in the City of Norwich, and Liberties thereof, to bear Offices of Magistracy in the said City, and for regulating the Elections of such Officers.* 9 Geo. c. 9. *

14. *An Act to explain and amend an Act (6 Geo. c. 13.) for ascertaining the Breadths, and preventing Frauds and Abuses in manufacturing Serges, Pladdings, and Fingrums; and for regulating the Manufacture of Stockings, in that Part of Great Britain called Scotland, so far as the same relates to Serges.* 10 Geo. c. 18. †

15. *An*

Silk manufactured, (which, being the first of the Kind, denotes an Improvement or Increase of that Manufacture, beyond former Times) also of Manufactures mixed with Silk, viz. of all Stuffs made in Great Britain of Silk and Worsted, 6d. for a Pound Weight, provided no Allowance should be made or demanded for such Mixture only at the Edges or Ends of the Piece. But this Proviso not being found sufficient to prevent Frauds (in inserting a small Quantity of Silk, not to make the Goods better, but to obtain the Bounty.) A Clause was added, 9 Geo. c. 8. which required, that two Thirds of the Warp, or whole Length, should be either all Silk, or mixed or twisted with Silk, in order to be entitled to the Bounty.

* 'Anciently, the chief Manufactures of that City, were Ruffs, Sattens Reverses, and Fustians; and the Makers thereof, by 1 and 2 of Phil. and Mary, c. 14. were obliged to become Freemen of the said City; by Means whereof, there was a constant Supply of able Magistrates, and great Good did accrue to the said City in many Respects; but the said Manufactures having been disused for several Years past, and others introduced in their Stead, the good Designs of the said Act were lost; it is therefore enacted, that all Manufacturers of Stuffs, made of or mixed with Wool, and all Makers of Wool into Yarn, who are not Journeymen or Servants for Hire, and all Master Woolcombers, should be made free of the said City, at their Request, within the Time, and for a Sum limited; after which Time, Persons not admitted or made free, presuming to use or exercise any of the said Manufactures, shall forfeit, &c.' Ch. 18. §. 4.

† This Act recites, 'That the Provision made by the formentioned Act, as to the Article of Serges, was not found sufficient for preventing the Frauds and Abuses intended

15. *An Act for the better regulating the Manufacture of Cloth, in the West Riding of York.* 11 Geo. c. 24.

16. *An Act to prevent unlawful Combination of Workmen employed in the Woolen Manufacture, and for better Payment of their Wages.* 12 Geo. c. 34.

17. *An Act for the better Regulation of the Woolen Manufactures, &c.* 13 Geo. c. 23. (*See the Statute, also 1 Geo. 2. Stat. 2. c. 17. **)

C H A P. CXIX.

Atlas Maritimus Commercialis, &c. 1727.

1. **T**HE Woolen Manufactures of *Great Britain*, beyond all Comparison, are the greatest in Value, as well as in the Variety of their Sorts, and the most extensive in the World. The principal Inhabitants in every Part of *Europe*, not *France* itself excepted, are clothed with them, or would be, if not expressly prohibited. Which last Article respects *France* chiefly. The *Turks*, through their whole Empire, whether in *Europe*,
Asia,

‘tended to be prevented; and therefore enacted further, to ascertain the Breadths, Lengths, and Fineness of Serges of all Sorts; the Fingrums of the Shires of *Aberdeen*, *Bamf* or *Murray* excepted,’ which were to remain as settled by former Laws.

§. 12.

* ‘Whereas by 8 Geo. 1. c. 15^d, certain Allowances or Sums of Money, are to be paid to the Exporters of Silk Stuffs made in *Great Britain*, or Silk mixed with, &c. Cotton or Worsted; and Provision was made in the said Act, that no Allowance should be demanded or made for such, when mixed with Silk only, at the Edge or Ends of the Piece, which not being sufficient to prevent Frauds, a further Provision was made, 9 Geo. I. c. 8, which by Experience has still been found ineffectual. For Remedy whereof, be it enacted, that the said Acts shall not be construed to entitle to a Bounty, except the Silk that shall be mixed in the Warp, shall be *obvious to the View* of the proper Officers, and shall be *double the Value* of the Bounty, intended to be paid on the Exportation of the said Manufactures.’

Asia, or *Africa*, wear *English* Cloth, when they are said to dress, even for their Habits of Ceramomy, or Robes of State. The Nobility and Gentry of *Persia*, and the Merchants of *Armenia* and *Georgia* are generally cloathed with it. The *Spaniards*, not at home only, but in *Mexico* and *Peru*; and the *Portuguese*, as well in *Europe* and in the *East Indies*, as in the *Brazills*, are principally cloathed with it. The *Venetians** and *Italians*; the Inhabitants of *Piedmont*, *Savoy*, the *Milanese*, the *Sicilians*, are all chiefly cloathed with our Manufacture, as also the *Greeks* in the Islands of the *Archipelago* and the *Levant*. Even the *Moors* of *Africa* supply themselves with the *English* Manufactures, as do also the *Egyptians*. All the Merchants (of the *European* Nations at least) planted in the *Indies*, furnish themselves from their respective Countries in *Europe*, with *British* Goods to cloath them. The *Dutch* in *Batavia* and *Sumatra*; the *Portuguese* at *Goa* on the Coast of *Malabar*, and even at *Macao* in *China*; the *Spaniards* at *Mindanas*, the *Philippines* and *Ladrones*; and the *British* at all their numerous Factories, from *Mocha* in the *Red Sea*, to *Canton* in *China*. As to the *British* Plantations and Settlements, where our Manufactures are carried on in a great, and almost incredible Quantity. I make no mention of them, because I esteem their Produce as our Produce, and our Exports thither as our home Consumption. But thus it appears, that the *British*, or more properly speaking, the *English* Woolen Manufactures, are the most extended Trade of the Kind in the Universe*.

2. The

* If the Person, I have spoke of, who imagined the *English* Export of Woolen Manufacture, to be at least thirty Times as much as the home Consumption, had seen this Account from the *Atlas Maritimus*, &c. 'tis no Wonder that he had formed to himself such a Gigantic Notion. Books under these Titles, are generally understood to be compiled with some Care and Exactness from the very best Materials, and consequently to convey the most authentic Intelligence. But how must a Man lower his Ideas, conceived from this Account, of the *English* foreign Trade for Woolen Manufacture, great and considerable as it truly is, when he comes to understand, that including what is carried to the *British* Plantations, the whole *English* Exports of Woolen Manu-

2. The Hard-Ware Manufactures, or Things made of Brass, Iron, Lead, &c. are very great in Proportion, tho' not so particularly and singularly extensive beyond the Manufactures of other Countries.

3. The Kingdom of *England* is a populous well planted Country, full of large trading Towns; and as the remotest Counties and Cities in *England*, are severally employed in the Woolen Manufactures, so some Sorts are made in one Part of the Nation, and some in another. But the general Market for them all is *London*. And as by the infinite Numbers of People in *England*, there is a vast home Consumption of all the said Manufactures for their own Use, so no Part of the Nation making every Sort, they are obliged to send for what they want, to those Countries where they are made, or to *London*, which is the Center of the whole Trade of *England*. This occasions a continual Intercourse of Trade and Correspondence among ourselves; and this I call the Circulation † of Trade, which is so great, that no Inland Trade in *Europe* can compare with it. We find it carried on by the Help of innumerable Pack-Horses, Draught-Horses, Waggons and Carts, Ships, Barges, Lighters, &c. maintaining a Number of Mariners,
Water-

Manufacture, were never known, before the Year 1700, to amount to three Millions, in any one Year, and since, not ordinarily to much, if any thing, more than three Millions; when he is told, that many Years since (when this Island was far less populous than at present, and its Exports of Woolen Manufacture were accounted but at two Millions) it was computed, that the home Consumption of Woolen Manufacture amounted to six Millions annually? These Things considered, how small a Part of the trading World comparatively, must *England* be supposed to furnish with Woolen Manufactures? and consequently how many other and great Woolen Manufactures must there necessarily be in several Parts of the World besides? Again, the Idea usually conceived of *English* Wool, good as it certainly is, will be greatly lowered, by considering that the finest Cloths of *England*, of which such magnificent Things are justly said, is made, not of *English*, but of the best *Spanish* Wool only.

† And which is indeed the Life of it, and, according to the *British Merchant**, makes more than 19 Parts in 20, of the whole Trade of *Great Britain*.
* See Ch. 100.

Watermen, Carriers, Waggoners, Chapmen, Victuallers, Innkeepers, Alehouses, &c.

4. The Manufacture of Clothing, which is carried on in *Wilts* and *Gloucestershire*, consists chiefly in fine mix'd or Medley Cloths, or fine Whites to dye Black, Scarlet, &c. and these we call *Spanish Cloths*. The Consumption of which is so great at home, that the Value of fine Cloth wore by the *English* Gentlemen and Tradesmen, &c. in *England* and *Scotland*, is said to amount to above a Million Sterling *per Ann.* besides the Quantity exported to other Parts of the World. This Manufacture only employs an infinite Number of People, and spreads itself so as to be the principal Business of four very large, populous, and wealthy Counties, namely, *Somersetshire*, *Wiltshire*, *Gloucestershire*, and *Worcestershire*. Some affirm it employs near a Million of People; and some who say they have Calculations of the Numbers, say it employs a great many more.

5. All our Clothing Trade, the making of Bays, Says, Perpets, Serges, Druggets, the Goods made now at *Norwich*, at *Bristol*, in *Yorkshire* and *Suffolk*, if they be examined, will prove to be all derived from the original Manufactures of the *Flemings*. The Materials of which Manufactures, particularly the Wool, and Fullers Earth, they had from *England*, where the best Wool, and the greatest Quantity of it was produced, that was to be found in the whole World, as it is to this Day *. But the *English*, tho' their Wool brought them in a great Mass of Wealth, began at last to see their Error; and about the Year 1450, it came to be considered, why the
Wool

* This Author speaking of *Poland*, says, ' the *Poles* have one Thing more, which they do not rightly know the Value of, or at least, have not Industry enough to improve. Their *Sheeps Wool* is the best in all the Northern World (*English* and *Irish* excepted) and this they bring to *Dantzick*, from whence the *Dutch* fetch great Quantities of it; and it is very helpful to them in their Manufactures at *Leyden*. The *French* also bring some of it away; but they find Ways to get the *English* and *Irish* Wool upon such easy Terms, that they decline the *Polish* ^b Wool. ^b See Great Quantities however are carried into *Germany*; and Ch. 36. now of late the *Suedes* also buy it, in order to assist in the §. 2. Note. Manufactures they have set up.

Wool might not as well be manufactured in *England* as in *Flanders*. Upon these Considerations, a Stop was gradually put to the Export of the Wool; the Clothing was encouraged in *England*, also Manufacturers gotten from the *Netherlands* to instruct our People. In the Reign of *Hen. VIII.* Improvements were made; and the *English* having no Tax to pay upon their Wool (which the *Flemings* had) it was a great Advantage to them. All this while the People of *England* made no more than what was consumed at home, nor were they able to supply the Demand of their own Country by a great deal. But the *Flemings* had still the whole Trade to all the rest of the World.

6. At length came the happy Reign of Queen *Elix.* when, to compleat the Ruin of the *Flemings* as to Trade, the Exportation of Wool was absolutely ^{*} prohibited; and the chief Master Manufacturers came over and set up their respective Manufactures at *Norwich, Leeds, Hallifax, Wakefield, Exeter, Colchester.* This put a full Stop to the *Flemish* Trade; as to their Manufacture of Wool; what they have done since, has been by the Help of such Wool as they could get from *France, Germany, Scotland,* and other Places, and some by *Stealth* from *England*; which began the *Owling* Trade from *Rumney Marsh.*

7. But to Monsieur *Colbert* we owe this fatal unhappy Trade of *Owling*, as it is carried on to this Day, on the Coasts of *Kent* and *Suffex*, and which all the *Lws,* the Soldiers, and the Arts of Custom-House Officers, or of the Government of *Great Britain*, have not been able to suppress, at least not totally. By this Means, the *French* being able to furnish their own People, in a few Years, they not only excluded the *English* Manufacture, but began to rival the *English* in all the foreign Markets of *Europe*, as in *Spain, Portugal, and Italy*; and also in *Asia*, but especially in *Turkey* and *Barbary.*

8. At the famous Manufactory near *Nismes* in *Languedoc*, Cloths are made so admirably well, that some have even thought they outdid the *English*; and certain it is, they are very good, but want the Substance and Firmness and Weight of the *English.* They have likewise imitated the *British* Serges, Says, long Ells, *Perpetuana's*, *Druggets*, but not to such Perfection as they have the Cloths, yet to so great a Degree, that they have

have extremely lessened the Demand for those Goods in *Italy* and *Spain*; and we had some Threats that they would throw us out of the Trade at *Cadiz*, for the *Spanish West Indies*; and perhaps they might have gone a great Way towards it, had not the Hand of Heaven interposed, and given the *French* such a Blow by the late Plague in *Languedoc*, as it's thought they will never recover, or at least not in many Years.

9. *France* had several little Manufactures among them in former Times, which by Reason of the great Vent they had for them to *England*, were very profitable to them, but which by the Industry of the *English* and *Dutch* are now greatly lessened, and as to their Exportation, almost ruined, viz. 1. *Hats*. This was a very considerable Manufacture in *France*, made chiefly at *Caudebec* on the River *Scine*, and from thence exported in great Quantities to *England*, &c. But we have not only left off wearing those Hats, but have fallen into the way of making light Hats like those, so much better, and yet so cheap, that there are scarce any Hats now made at *Caudebec*; what they use being made now chiefly at *Roan* and *Paris*, and few or none exported. *England* also now supplies *Spain*, *Portugal*, *Italy*, and *Germany*, with Hats in an extraordinary Quantity. And the Manufacture is lost to the *French* as a Merchandize, and for Exportation. 2. *Glass*. Their *Normandy Window Glass* was the same for Kind, of which so great a Quantity is now made in *England*, and which we call *Crown Glass*. The *English* formerly had it only from *France*, and imported great Quantities of it Yearly; whereas they now make so much in *England*, that they supply many other Countries with it, and withal, make it so good and cheap, that some say it is better than the *French*. The like is to be said of all Sorts of Plate Glass for Coaches, Looking Glasses, &c. all which the *English* were formerly supplied with from *France*. I might mention several other Articles of the *French* Manufactures, which for want of a Market in *England*, where their principal Consumption was, are very much decay'd, and in a manner quite sunk; I mean as to Exportation, the *English* having set up the same among themselves; such as the Hard-Ware Manufactures in particular, viz. Scissars, Razors, Locks and Keys, and all Sorts of wrought Iron and Brass, of which

The Yearly Value of wrought Silks formerly imported from France. which the *English* now send great Quantities even to *France* itself; also Soap, Bone Lace, and especially wrought Silks; which was once so great a Trade from *France*, that *England* imported to the Value of 700,000 *l.* per Ann. in wrought Silks only; whereas that Part is now reduced to nothing. (See Chap. 103. §. 6. *Note.*)

10. But the Plague has been a double Blast upon them; for besides the Havock it made of their People in some of the most populous Provinces, where the Manufactures were carried on to the greatest Height, all the Ports of *Europe* have been as it were, shut against them; and so far have their Neighbours been from admitting them to trade, that several of their Ships are said to have perished at Sea, the Men being starved to Death, merely because they could not be suffered to put into any Port for Provisions, or for so much as fresh Water. This at once deprived them for many Months, of all the Trade of the whole Kingdom of *Spain*, as well as of all the Ports of *Italy*; not a Piece of their Goods, whether Linen or Silk, was permitted to go in the Galleons to *New Spain*, or in the *Portuguese* Fleets to *Brazil* for two Years together; in both which consisted the Life and Prosperity of their Manufactures, and by which they were always supplied in ready Money in Specie for carrying them on.

11. And as I said, that *France* is deficient in its Produce, as to some necessary Things, which it cannot be without, and which are not only useful for their home Consumption, but also for the Employment of their People, and Support of their Manufactures, so it must necessarily follow, that they import greater Quantities of such Goods from abroad. First, they have neither Wool nor Silk, or at least had neither, 'till they learned by their Necessity to plant the last, and get the first by a clandestine Trade from *England*; but,

N. B. We are not to suppose, when we say the *French* have no Wool, that there is no Sheep in *France*; or that the Sheep have no Wool on their Backs; on the contrary, there is a great deal of Wool, and such as they make many Goods and Manufactures of, as particularly the Ruffs and coarse Cloths which their Peasants wear, and which are almost as coarse and as rough as our Blankets; also Rugs, Blankets, Caps, Hats, and several such

Ch. 120. *Memoirs of Wool, &c.* 209

such Things useful in their Kind. But when we say they have NO WOOL, we mean they have it not fine¹ Ch. 105. enough, nor a sufficient Quantity, to carry on their fine §. 12, 14. Manufacture of Cloth, Stuffs, Serges, and such Goods as are made in *England* and *Ireland*. To remedy this, they import Wool clandestinely with great Art and Application, and some Hazard too, from *England*, but especially from *Ireland*. They also import it openly from *Spain*, from *Barbary*, and some from *Germany*, in a word, from all Places where it can be had *.

C H A P. CXX.

The Atlas general, &c.

1. *Iceland* or *Iseland*. The *Wool* of their Sheep is coarse Page 17: as Hair.—Their Trade is by Barter. Their Product, Butter——coarse *Woolen Cloth*, &c. The King's Revenue is paid in dried Fish, coarse Cloth, &c.

2. *Norway*. Their Beasts are black Cattle, Horses and Page 20, Sheep, wild and tame. The tame Sheep fed in Inclosures separated by Ditches. He is accounted a good Farmer who 21. has 500 of them: They lose many of them in hard Winters. Most of them, in the West Parts, are white, in the South, black. Knit Hose is their chief Manufacture; 60,000 Pair of which are annually exported. Their Cloaths

* To shew then in what Parts of the World WOOL is produced, as also what the *French* have within themselves, I shall, without Regard to the Year when printed, they being modern Books, proceed to give Extracts from the *Atlas general*, and from *Salmon's modern History, or the present State of all Nations*. Which Books are oftener consulted occasionally than read throughout; and if by great Chance they are perused; yet, because they contain great Variety of other Matter, more suited to the general Taste of Readers; Therefore, what lies scattered in these two large Works, upon this Subject, is not so apt to command Attention, as it will be, when collected under one View, as in the two next following Chapters.

Cloaths are generally of a coarse Flannel, and of one Fashion; but they have a finer Sort for Church and Market. Their Bedding is Hay, with a little Flannel spread over it. The Women weave fine Bed-cloaths of several Colours, with fine Stockins and Woolen Waistcoats; they dye all themselves. The Farmers are obliged to keep a certain Number of *Sheep* and Cattle for the King's Use, and to pay him a fixed Rate for their own.

Page 26. 3. *Sweden*. The *Wool* of their *Sheep* is very coarse; they have Woolen Manufactures from *England*; but of late they make coarse Cloth of their own, to supply their Army, and have laid such Taxes on *Englisch* Cloth, as amounts almost to a Prohibition.

Page 33. 4. *Muscovy in Europe*, Horses, black Cattle, *Sheep*,
Page 36. (*Astracan*) plenty of Beef, Mutton, &c. (*Nagaisky*, or the Country of the *Nagrarian Cossan Tartars*) their black Cattle large, and the Tails of their *Sheep* so fat that

Page 37. some of them weigh 30 Pounds.

5. *Poland*, *Sheep* in great Plenty. *Lithuania* abounds with black Cattle, *Sheep*, &c. The Western Parts export from *Dantzick* Corn, *Wool*, &c.

Page 40.
Page 52. 6. *Germany*, its chief Commodities, *Wool*, &c. *Islands*
Page 64. on the Coasts of *Pomerania*. (*Rugen*) well stocked with

Page 73. *Sheep*. (*Brandenburgh* Marquisate and Electorate, 170 Miles long, 100 broad) They have great Flocks of *Sheep*, but not black Cattle in Proportion. *La Forest* says, were the People as much given to Trade, as to Drinking and good Cheer, they might make considerable Profit of their *Sheep*. But since his Time, the Trade of that Country is much improved. *French* Refugees and other Protestants, entertained, privileged and naturalized, have settled there many useful Manufactures. Marquisate of

Page 81. *Lusatia* (*Gorlitz*) a good Trade in Dying and Dressing Linen and *Woolen*. *Wetteravia* (*Dittingburgh*) two annual Fairs for Cattle and *Wool*. *Hesse* (*Lower Hesse*)

Page 92. in the Valleys, Flocks of *Sheep*, that bear the best of

Page 93. *Wool* in *Germany*, which used to be bought by the *Englisch* Merchants. (*Cassel*) the adjacent Fields are covered with Flocks of *Sheep*. *Wool* their chief Trade. (*Waldeck*) plenty of *Sheep*. (Circle of *Suabia*) This Country

Page 97. has a good Breed of Horses, black Cattle, *Sheep*. Circle of *Austria* (Dutchy of *Silesia* 220 Miles long, and 90

Page 105. where broadest) Their principal Commodities for Trade, *Wool*,

Wool, &c. In this *Dutchy* are many high Mountains, but two Ridges are remarkable; one of them, by the Natives called *Jablunca*, abounds with great Flocks of *Sheep*. (*Moravia*) a good Breed of Horses, black Cattle, *Sheep*. (*Iglaw*) the chief Trade, coarse Woolen Cloths and Beer. (*Stiria Dutchy* 130 Miles East and West, 130 South and North) *Upper*, abounds with *Sheep*, barters Wool with the *Lower* for Wine. *The seven United Provinces* have great Numbers of *Sheep*, but the best are in *Zealand*. *Overysfel (Swoll)* its Trade, Cattle, Wool, &c. (*Leyden*) the chief Manufacture, *Camblets, Cloth*; of which 100,000 Pieces have been made here in one Year. (*Zealand*) good Pasture for *Sheep*, especially on the Shores.

7. (The *Spanish*, now the *Austrian Netherlands*) the *Flemings* lay claim to the teaching other Nations the Way to make Cloth. They claim also the Invention of Worsted, Says, and other Stuffs, which they taught the *English*, when drove from the Duke d'Alva's Persecution. (*Ghent*) their chief Trade, besides Corn, is in *Cloths, Stuffs* and Silks, which employs a third Part of their 50 Companies of Tradesmen. (*Bruges*) they have still a Trade in *Spanish Wool*, Manufactures of *Cloth, Fustian, Stuffs* and Tapestry. (*Ypres*) a large Market Place; in which an ancient Hall, a Store-House for their Wool. (*Courtray*) noted for good Diaper and Cloth. (*Tournay*) has a considerable Trade in *Woolen Cloth*, (*Dendermond*) a considerable Trade in *Fustians* and other Stuffs. (*Malines* or *Mechlin*) their chief Manufactures, *Lace, &c. Linen*, and *Woolen Cloth*. *Austrian Brabant (Dress)* is noted for Manufactures of *Linen* and *Woolen*. *Hainault (Valencienne)* several spacious Halls belonging to Companies of Tradesmen; the chief, that of the *Cloth Workers*, formerly remarkable for a Trade; not their chief Manufacture now, but rather Silks and Linens. (*Maubeuge*) has a considerable Trade in *Woolen Cloth*.

8. FRANCE, their chief Commerce is in Wine, Brandy, Oil of Olives, *Cloths, Camblets, Silk*, and *Woolen Stuffs*; in short, they have all Things necessary for Life, can easily be without the Commodities of other Nations, tho' few can be without theirs. (*Orchies*) noted for *Woolen Stuffs*. (*Doway*) an annual Fair in September, where are sold great Quanties of *Worsted*

- Page 134. *Cambles*. (*Abbeville*) a considerable Trade in Linen Cloth, Wool, and Corn. (*Amiens*) chief Trade, Stuffs. *Isle of France* (*Beauvais*) a good Trade in Linen Cloths, Stuffs, &c.; the best Mutton in the Nation. *Normandy* (*Aumarle* or *Albemarle*) noted for
- Page 139, *Woolen Cloths*. *Bretagne*, *Orleanois*, (*Bourges*) great
- pag. 140. Flocks of Sheep, whose Wool is famous. (*Chartres*) noted for Manufactures. (*Nogent le Rotrou*) considerable in Serges. (*Poitieu*) the Province abounds in
- Page 141. Cattle, Wool, &c.—*Champagne* (*Chalons*) a considerable Trade in Cloth, &c. (*Meziers*) a fine Manufacture
- Page 142. of Cloth. *Lyonois* (*Lyons*) very antient, the Metropolis of the Country in *Augustus's* Time, and had a great Trade in Cloth. (*Bourbonnois*) abounds in Wine, Wool,
- Page 143, &c. *Guienne* (*Pergieux*) abounds with Pastures, Flocks,
- pag. 144. &c. (*Drax*) its Product — Cattle, Wool, &c. (*Lower Navarre*) the Valleys have good Pasturage; the
- Page 145. Wool of their Sheep is fine. *Languedoc* (*Castres*) noted for a Manufacture of *Crape*. (*Castle Naudari*) for a Manufacture of *Woolen Cloth*. (*Nismes*) for a Manufacture of good Serge. (*Ufex*) famous for its Manufacture of Cloth and Serges. (*The Cevennes* and *Vivareze*) the mountainous Parts abound with Flocks.
- Page 149. 9. SWITZERLAND (*Canton of Zurich*) has a good Trade, especially in *Crapes*, which is their Manufacture.
- Page 152, 10. SPAIN, their Wool the finest in *Europe*. POR-
- pag. 157. TUGAL, excellent Pasturage, great Herds of black Cattle and *Sheep*.
- Page 159. 11. ITALY (*Savoy*) Cattle of all Sorts; so that they export Hides, Flesh, *Wool*, &c. (*The Island of Corsica*) Abundance of *Sheep*. (*The Veronese*) has Plenty of
- pag. 163. ——— *Wool*, &c. (*The Vincentin*) abounds with ———
- Page 165, *Wool*, &c. (*Parma*) fine *Wool*. (*Tuscany* or *Florence*)
- pag. 166, Commodities, ——— *Wool*, *Flax*, *Serges*, *Woolen*
- pag. 168, *Cloth*, &c. (*The Republick St. Marino*) no black
- pag. 173. Cattle, but Abundance of *Sheep*. (*Taranto*) furnishes a great deal of fine *Wool*. (*Calabria citerior*) Corn — *Wool*, &c. *The Venetian Dominions* on the East Side of the *Adriatick*, and in the *Ionian Sea* and *Archi Pelago*. (*Dalmatia*) abounds with Corn, ——— *Sheep*, &c.
- Page 175. (*Cephalonia*) with *Oil*, *Wine*, ——— *Wool*, &c.

Ch. 120. *Memoirs of Wool, &c.* 213

12. HUNGARY, TRANSYLVANIA. (*Hermanstat*) Page 179. the chief Trade, *Cloth* and *Mead*. (*Segešwar*) a Manufacture of *Cloth*.

13. TURKEY in *Europe*. (*Walachia*) Plenty of Page 180, black Cattle, Sheep, &c. (*Salonichi*) considerable for pag. 181, its Traffick in Wool. (*Thermia*) Plenty of — — — pag. 184. Wool, &c.

14. SCOTLAND, As to their Wool, they have great Abundance; and tho' it be not generally so good as that in *England*, yet they have some in *Galloway*, *Tweeddale*, Page 234. and the North, which is very fine. The Manufactures they make of it, are broad Cloths, which they had brought to great Perfection before the Union. They also make their Wool into coarse Cloth, &c. The *Glasgow Plads* exceed all that Sort of Manufacture in the *Glasgow* World. The *Scots* have a peculiar Way of Dying the *Plads* a peculiar Man- Wool for those *Plads* in Grain; which the *Norwich* Ma- nufacturers and others, have endeavoured to imitate, but come very short of. They make Worsted Stockings at *Aberdeen* for Women, from 10 to 30 s. per Pair. They are spun of fine Wool from the *Highlands*, and so much valued, that Mens Stocking of that Sort, are sometimes sold at 50 s. and 3 l. a Pair.

15. THE SHIRE of BERWICK. (*Lammer Moor*) Page 237. a Tract of Hills about 16 Miles long and 6 broad, feeds Multitudes of Sheep. (Shire of *Roxburgh*) abounds with Sheep, &c. (of *Selkirk*) here are great Flocks of Sheep. Page 238. (*Tweeddale*) chief Product, Sheep, Cattle, &c. Wool extraordinary good. (*Galloway*) this Country abounds Page 239. with Sheep, which bear very good Wool. (*Carrick*) abounds with Sheep, (*Stirling*) with Sheep. (*Lenox*, or the Shire of *Dumbarton*) the mountainous Parts abound with Pasture, and numerous Flocks. (Shire of *Fife*) the middle Parts have Plenty of Pasture, and numerous Flocks and Cattle, especially Sheep, whose Wool is much esteemed. (Shire of *Aberdeen*) Abundance of Sheep, (of *Ross*) feeds great Numbers of Cattle, Sheep, &c. (of *Sutherland*) abounds with Corn, Sheep, &c. Here are many commodious Harbours, from whence they export Corn, Wool, &c. (*Stratbarnven*) great Herds of Cattle, Page 253. Horses, Sheep, &c.

16. The Western Islands in the Shire of ARGYLE Page 15 (*Gigay*) abounds with black Cattle, Horses, Sheep, &c.

- (*Jura*) well inhabited, abounds with black Cattle, *Sheep*. (*Oranza*) Cattle, Horses, and Sheep of a low Size. (*Colonia*) not very fruitful; but has Abundance of black Cattle and Sheep. (*Mull*, 24 Miles long and 24 broad) here is Store of *Sheep*, &c. (*Lifmore*, with several other small Islands) good Pasturage for *Sheep*. (*Skys* 42 Miles long, from 30 to 20 broad) Abundance of Horses, black Cattle, *Sheep*. This Island yields *Fullers Earth*. (Several small Islands adjacent) with good Pasturage. (*Nor-thoist* and Islands adjacent) Abundance of black Cattle and *Sheep*. (*Lewis and Harris*) *Sheep* exceeding fat.
- Page 259, 17. SHIRE of ORKNEY. (The *Orcades* or *Orkney* pag. 261. Isles) good Store of *Sheep*. (Isles of *Schetland*) more Pasturage than Corn.
- Page 263. 18. IRELAND, the Soil is generally fruitful, but fitter for Pasturage than Corn; upon which *Sheep* and other Cattle thrive exceedingly. The *Irish* Cattle of all Sorts, are generally of a small Size. But those brought from *England*, thrive exceeding well, and neither degenerate in Size, nor Goodness.
- Part 2.
- Page 149. 19. ASIA, *Natolia* (*Prusia*, or *Prusa*, now *Boursa* or *Bourse*) the chief Trade here is in Silks, Stuffs——
- Page 150. fine Wool, &c. (*Sardis* in *Lydia*) the Inhabitants for the most Part SHEPHERDS. (*Miletum*, now *Palaticchia*)
- Page 151. it was famous for Wool and Coverlets.
- Page 155, 20. Islands of *Natolia* (*Mytilene*, or *Metelin*) they pag. 156. have Plenty of SHEEP. (*Scio*, formerly *Cbios*, 120 Miles in Circuit) one Commodity of the Island, Wool. (*Samo*, or *Samos*) many Beefs, their Sheep few in Proportion. The *French* load a Bark with Wool once per Ann. and buy two Ounces for two *Sous*.
- Page 160. 21. SYRIA (from North to South 300 Miles, from East to West 250) feeds vast Herds of Cattle, and particularly Sheep. (*Damascus* ^m) Lucas says, the SHEEP ^m Ezek. xxvii. 18. here are very large. (*Arabia Felix*) Mutton fine and sweet.
- Page 178. 22. PERSIA furnishes most of *Romania* and *Natolia* with SHEEP. (*Hamadan*) near this Place, the Wool
- Page 181, of the Sheep longer and finer than others. (*Isfahan*) near pag. 183. this City, 1460 Villages, the Inhabitants of which live mostly by Manufactures of Silk and *Woolen*. (*Iesa*, or *Yesda*) a City noted for Manufacture of *Serges*, of a particular *Wool*, handsomer and better than Silk. (*Chorasfan* Province) here

Ch. 120. *Memoirs of Wool, &c.* 215

here are SHEEP of different Sorts; particularly, one Page 184.
that has *long grey shining Wool*. (*Kerman* or *Karman*,
330 Miles from South to North, 180 East and West)
their Sheep bear the finest Wool in *Persia*. Page 186.

23. *INDOSTAN*, or the Empire of the Great *Mogul*, Page 187.
the fruitfulest Country of all *Asia* (which is esteemed the
most fruitful Part of the whole World) in Corn, Cattle,
&c. Their *Sheep* have short, but very fine Wool. (*Cachemire*) the Natives excell in varnishing and making
Stuffs called *Chales* of fine Wool, or Goats Hair, which
last are finer and softer than *Cashor*. Both Sexes wear
Mantles of them in Winter. (*Multan*) their Manu- Page 188.
factures are good *white Cloth* ———— *red Stuffs*,
&c. (*Lahor*) in the Towns, Manufactures of every
Thing made in the Empire. (*Surgat*) the *English East* Page 191.
India Company export Cloth to *Bantam*; import Gold
and Elephants Teeth from *Sumatra*, in Exchange for
Corn and Drugs, and *Carmania Wool* from *Persia*.
(*Cananor*) the Province abounds with ———— black Page 194.
Cattle, SHEEP, &c. (*Calicut*) Goods imported hither
————— Wool, &c. (*Gingi*) the chief Manu- Page 195,
facture, Linen and *Woolen Stuffs*. (*Orixa*) Rice, Cot- pag. 197,
tons, CLOTHS, &c. (*Narvar*) abounds with Wool. pag. 199.
Here are vast Flocks of SHEEP, whose Wool is reckon- pag. 200.
ed equal to *Spanish*. (*Sandage*) noted for Manufactures
of Wool. (*Bengal*) here are Abundance of SHEEP.
(*Hughly* or *Ougly*) Goods of all Sorts ———— fine Page 201.
Cloth.

24. The *Peninsula* beyond the *Ganges* ———— Page 202.
(*Arracan*) in the neighbouring Country, numerous Flocks
of great and small Cattle.

25. *CHINA* (*Chensi* or *Xensi*) the Inhabitants sheer Page 214.
their Sheep and Goats thrice a Year. Indian Islands
(*Java*) black Cattle, Sheep. Page 219.

26. *AFRICA*, *Barbary* (*New Fex*) the Trade of Im- pag. 227.
port, consists of *English* and *other Woolen Cloth*. The
Goods exported are, Wax, Skins, Wool, &c. (*Tunis*)
3000 Shops sell Linen and Woolen; their chief Trade
with the *Venetians* and *Genoese*. Page 228.

27. *EGYPT*, their Sheep usually bring forth twice a
Year. (*Caffreria*, which contains all the most Southren
Parts of *Africa*) they have Store of *Beeves* and Sheep,
which they exchange on the Coasts for Tobacco and
Brandy.

216 *Memoirs of Wool, &c. Ch. 120.*

- Brandy. They don't value Cloths of Linen and Woolen.
- Page 234, (*Madagascar*) abounds in Fruit. Pasturage, Sheep.
- pag. 240. 28. AMERICA (*Pensylvania*) the Inhabitants send Tallow, Sheep, Wool, &c. to our Sugar Islands. (*Maryland*) * little or no Woolen Manufactures, but in *Somersetshire*. (*Carolina*) they make fine Druggets mixed with Silk and Wool. (*Jamaica*) the Sheep generally large and fat, but the Wool good for nothing. (*Barbadoes*) the Earl of *Carlisle* obtained a Grant of it from King *Charles I.* The Colony prospered, and great Quantities of Indigo, Cotton, Woolⁿ, &c. were sent to *London*. (*Tobago* Island) a perpetual Spring; numerous Herds of tame and wild Beasts, Sheep, &c.
29. The DUTCH Dominions in *America* (*Bonair* Island, 17 Leagues round) abounds with Sheep and black Cattle. (*Oruba* or *Auruba*) the chief Product — — Sheep, &c.
30. The SPANISH Dominions in *America* — —
- Page 251. (*Old Mexico*) Length 2750 Miles South East and North West, Breadth unknown) great Flocks of Sheep. (*Puebla de los Angeles*) a large Town of 1500 Families. Here's a Manufacture of Cloth as good as any in *Spain*. (*Guaxaca*) in a neighbouring Valley, great Herds of Cattle and Sheep, which afford Wool to Clothiers of *Los Angeles*. (*Chiappa*) good Horses, Goats, Sheep, &c. (*Guatemala* proper) some Graziers here so rich to have 40,000 black Cattle, and as many Sheep. (*Peru*) their Sheep large, their Wool fine. (*Quito*) the chief Trade of Export, is in Cocoa, Hides, Tallow, *Woolen Cloth*.
- Page 257. (*Chili*) Length 1740 Miles, not of equal Breadth. The Meadows full of Cattle, and particularly a large Kind of Sheep. (The Province of *Rio de la Plata*, South and North

Maryland, Aug. 13, 1746.

Gen. Ev. * 'European Goods sell here at a monstrous Rate, which
Post, Oct. ' is ruinous to us. — But we can't as yet do without them,
 25, 1746. ' being so entirely taken up with Tobacco, as to neglect
 ' the more useful Commodities, our Cloaths. — How-
 ' ever, we are beginning to manufacture our Wool and
 ' Flax; and I doubt not, shall make good Linen and
 ' Woolen Cloth. And if the War continues, shall be able
 ' to furnish ourselves, without troubling *Great Britain*.'
 (See Chap. 127. §. 24, 27.)

Ch. 121. *Memoirs of Wool, &c.* 217

North 1270 Miles, East and West 1200) excellent Pasturage, Abundance of Sheep.

Page 260.

31. BRAZIL, the Captain Ship of *Del Rey*, abounds with Pepper, Ginger, rich Furrs, Cotton, *Wool* and Wax.

C H A P. CXXI.

Modern History, or the present State of all Nations, &c. By Mr. Salmon. In 3 vols. Quarto.

1. CHINA, Sheep like those of *Turkey*. (*Japan*) Page 21, the *Dutch* transport thither *Wool*. (*Proper India and Tartary*) very fine *Sheep* with good *Fleeces*. 385, 394, PERSIA (Province of *Kirman*) Worsted *Druggets* made, 714, 723, *Sheep* many, large, &c. RUSSIA, *Sheep*, *Woolen* Ma- 752, 755-
nufacture. SWEDEN, *Sheeps* *Wool* coarse, fit to make
Cloathing for the common People. The *Woolen* Ma-
nufacture of late so far improved there, and *English*
Woolen Goods under such Discouragements, that it is
become scarce worth the while to send any thither. PO-
LAND, noble Meadows and Pasture Grounds; *Wool* Page 840,
exported in great Plenty, and tolerably good. 847.
2. BOHEMIA, a deal of good Meadow and Pasture; Vol. 2.
abounds in Oxen and Sheep. The Manufactures there, Page 3:
Linen and *Woolen*; in which, arrived at no great Per-
fection. They transport Part of their *Wool* to other
Countries. (*Transilvania*) one Manufacture Cloth. (*Vi-* Page 22,
enna) furnished with *Sheep* from *Hungary*; in the upper 67, 69,
Styria the Natives feed large Flocks of *Sheep*, which 88, 92,
afford good *Wool*. (*Brandenburgh*) large Flocks of *Sheep*. 95, 102.
(*Island of Rugen*) well stocked with *Sheep*. (*Prussia*) a 106.
large *Woolen* Manufacture. (*Lunenburgh Walfstrode*) the
Trade consists in *Wool*, &c. (*Bremen*) Commodi-
ties exported are, *Wool*, &c. (*Hesse Landgravate*) in Page 113.
their Plains, numerous Flocks of *Sheep*, which yeild the
finest *Wool* in *Germany*, which is * bought up by the
English

* Used to be (I presume, it should be said) *Core English Wool*

- Engliſh* Merchants, as equal, if not preferable to their own. (*Dillingburgh and Herbron*) a tolerable Trade in
- Page 116, *Woolen Cloth wrought there.* (*Uffen in Weſtphalia*) con-
 144, 256, ſiderable for a Manufacture of *Cloth.* (The North Part
 273. of *Brabant*) accounted barren, affording only Paſtorage
 for Sheep—Except Tin and Lead, Sugar and Tobacco;
 there are very few Things produced either in *England*,
 or our *Plantations*, which the *Auſtrians* and *French* *Ne-*
therlands ſtand in Need of. SWITZERLAND (Canton
 Page 278, of *Zurick*) a principal Manufacture is *Crope.* (*Italy*)
 337, 342, the Wool of *Parma* is not inferior to any in *Italy.* In
 350. *Tuſcany* there is ſaid to be a *Woolen* Manufacture. The
 Sheep of the *Paduan* afford a good Sort of *Wool*, little
 inferior to that of *England.* At *Venice*, the *Woolen*
 Page 356, Manufacture is ſo conſiderable, that Foreign made Cloths
 358, 470, are there prohibited. The *Veroneſe* abounds in *Wool*,
 471, 477. &c. *Cephalonia*, an Iſland, produces *Wool*, &c. (*Cer-*
fica) Plenty of Sheep. (*Malta*) Mutton and Lambs ex-
 quiſitely good—In the Year 1726, the Vice-Roy of *Sicily*
 received Orders from the Imperial Court, to forbid ſe-
 veral Species of *Engliſh Woolen Goods*, proper for a warm
 Country, in order to encourage the ſame from *Ger-*
many.
- Page 495, 3. FRANCE (*Picardy*) ſeveral good Manufactures of
 498, 298. *Linen* and *Woolen.* (*Chalms*) a pretty good Trade in
Woolen Cloth. (*Meaux*) the adjacent Country pro-
 duces *Wool.* The Province of *Champagne*, *Wool*, which
 is a principal Manufacture there. (The Territory of
Arles, 30 Miles in Extent) an excellent Paſture for
 Page 508, Sheep. (*Provence*) from *Marſailles* to *Italy*, go annually
 514. 6000 * Bales of *CLOTH, SERGES, &c.* To *Spain* a
 vaſtly greater Quantity. Returns in *Wool* of *Segovia*,
 &c. to a very great Value. (*Turkey* and *Levant* Trade)
 of their own Growth or Manufacture, *WOOLEN*
 Page 515. *CLOTH, SERGES.* (From *Conſtantinople*) *Sheeps Wool.*
 To

Wool was prohibited to be exported, but ſince which, the
Engliſh Wool has been ſo much cheaper than all others
 comparatively, that now they import none but the beſt
Spaniſh Wools.

* The Reader may be pleaſed to obſerve, that tho' Fi-
 gures are here uſed, yet Mr. *Salmon's* Account is in Words
 at Length.

Ch. 121. *Memoirs of Wool, &c.* 219

(To *Salonica* or *Thessalonica*) *English* Cloth, or Cloth in Imitation thereof, importing from thence Wool.

4. (In the *Archipelago*) a particular Company of Merchants trade from *Marseilles* to *Satalia*, a Sea Port of *Pamphilia*, who carry only Silver thither, for which they bring back Wool, &c. (To *Alexandria* the Port Town to *Grand Cairo* in *Egypt*) go ten or twelve Ships, the Goods carried, are *Caps*, &c. for which they bring back Wool, &c. (*Clermont*) a royal Manufactory, where is made most the Cloth carried to the *Levant*. (*Ugent* Diocese) feeds great Numbers of Sheep. Page 519.
Page 521.

5. Trade of *Languedoc*) Woolen Cloth to *Germany*, *Switzerland*, and the *Levant*, and with which they cloath the King's Troops, viz. (*Toulouse* Trade) *Spanish* Wool, coarse Hangings, *Stuffs* of Silk, and Wool. (In the Diocese of *Alai*) a Woolen Manufactory. (Diocese of *Castres*) *SERGES*, *BAYS*, &c. (Diocese of *St. Pons*) some Woolen Manufactory. (The City and County of *Carcassone*) extremely barren, one great Woolen Manufactory. (Diocese of *Lodève*) some fine *Druggets* made, and exported to *Germany*. (Diocese of *Agde*) their Wool is fine. The Wool Trade is most considerable, which is carried on at *Montpelier*. They import their Wool from *Smyrna*, *Constantinople*, *Sally*, *Tunis* and *Spain*, and either manufactory it themselves, or vend it unwrought in the neighbour Provinces. (City of *Nismes*) great Variety of Manufactures. (In the *Vivarez*) the Mountains called *Boutiers*, tho' esteemed barren, afford Pasture for Sheep. (The *Gevauden*) the People have a good Manufactory of *Serges* and other Woolen *Stuffs*, which they export to *Germany*, *Switzerland*, and the *Levant*, to the Value of two Millions of *Livres*. (Diocese of *Alais*) the Riches thereof consists in Woolen Manufactures, such as *DRUGGETS*, *SERGES*, &c. reckoned stronger and better than those of *Gevaudan*. Page 523.
Page 524.

6. *ROUSSILLON*, very fruitful, large Flocks of Sheep. (*Guienne* and *Gascony*) some Woolen Manufactures, not much to export. (*Bayonne*) a considerable Port; whence *Spanish* Wool is distributed to all the Provinces of *France*, where there are Woolen Manufactures. (*Rochele*) some say, *STUFFS* and *SERGES*, and other Woolen Manufactures to the Northern Kingdoms. (*Poitiers* and the District) Page 526.
Page 532.
Page 534.

- Page 536. District) the Trade, Worsted Stockings, &c. some Wool also sold at their Fairs; and Druggets, the Manufacture of *Parthenoy*. (*Maxient*) a Woolen Manufacture. (*Niort*) the Manufacture of Woolen Stuffs considerable.
- Page 540. 7. BRITANY (*Nants*) its principal Trade to *America*. About 50 Ships go annually, with Necessaries of all Kinds for the Plantations. Returns in ——— Wool, &c. (*St. Malo*) the Merchants send the Woolen Manufactures of *Amiens* and *Rheims* to *Cadiz*, and from thence to the *Spanish* Plantations. Returns, *Spanish Wool*, &c.
- Page 541. 8. NORMANDY, the Woolen Manufacture employs several Thousands; but the Cloth and Stuffs are vended chiefly in *France*.
- Page 548. 9. MAINE and PERCHE. (*Maine*) a Manufacture of Woolen Serges and Stuffs. (*Perche*) *French Stuffs* made, the Woolen Stuffs of *Nugent* are vended at *Paris*, and exported to other Countries.
- Page 552. 10. ORLEANS (*Orleans*) one Branch of Commerce, Wool, a considerable Manufacture of Stockins. (*Blois and Beajeu*) a Manufacture of Serges and Stuffs. (*At Romartin*) more considerable.
11. LYONS, the Merchants send to *Spain* Cloth, import from thence Wool; to *Italy*, Cloth, to *Switzerland*, coarse Cloth, to the great Towns of *Germany*, the same.
- Page 558, 559. (*Auvergne*) some Woolen Manufactures, viz. Serges and other slight Stuffs. (*Marche*) their Trade consists chiefly in Cattle, and in the Woolen Manufacture of *Aubusson*, (which is considerable on that Account) as also of *Telatin*.
12. BERRY (36 Leagues in Length, 28 broad) good Pastures for Sheep, that are valued for the *Fineness* of their Wool. The Trade, chiefly Cattle, Sheep: the latter also furnish their Manufactories with Wool; of 561, which, Cloths, Serges, Stockins, &c. (*Touraine*) Cloth once a principal Manufacture; now scarce followed any where, but at *Amboise*, and there only slight *French Stuffs* 562, are made. (*Anjou*) Cattle and Sheep their chief Riches; Manufacture, slight Woolen Stuffs.
847. 13. SPAIN, Wool in general *admirably fine*, and in *great abundance*. Their Settlements in *America* furnish them with prodigious Quantities of ——— Wool, &c.

Ch. 121. *Memoirs of Wool, &c.* 221

14. PORTUGAL (*Extremine Duero*) great Flocks of Sheep, their Wool and Flesh in good Esteem. (*Alenteijo*, about 36 Leagues long, near as many broad), Mutton and Beef good.

15. AFRICA, (*Ethiopia*, viz. *Abyssinia*) Sheep in Vol. III. great Plenty. (*Caffraria*, the Country of the *Hottentots*) Sheep. (*Congo*) most of the Cattle found in *Caffraria*, Sheep, &c. (*Morocco*) Duty on Wool exported, a hundred Pounds, six ounces of Silver. Sheep, &c. great Plenty. *Europeans* bring them Woolen Cloths, Stuffs, &c. taking in Return ——— Wool, &c. (*Algiers*) Merchandizes imported, Woolen Cloths, &c.; in Return for which, *Europeans* receive ——— fine Wool, &c. (*Tunis* and *Tripoli*.) In *Tripoli*, exceeding fine Wool. The *Europeans* trade with *Tunis* and *Tripoli* for Wool, &c.

16. AMERICA. (*Mexico*, the Province of *Guaxaca*) great Numbers of Sheep. *European* Sheep so multiplied there, 100 Years ago, that it was an ordinary thing for a *Spanish* *Grazier* to have 10 or 20,000 Sheep. (*California*) Sheep, some white, others black, larger than ours, affording more Wool, very good, and easy to be wrought up. (*Peru*) Sheep of the Country, the lesser Sort, their Wool long, and much esteemed for Cloathing. The first *European* Sheep there valued at 40 or 50 Crowns a Head. So much increased in ten Years, that a Sheep might be had for a trifle. Reason of the Increase, no Wolves, &c. The Numbers of Sheep and Quantity of Wool great. (*Chili*.) The Men wear a Garment made of the Wool of their Country Sheep of the *Peruvian* kind; the Women likewise. (*La Plata*) scarce a Canton, which has less than 30 or 40,000 *European* Sheep; one of which is more valued, on account of its Wool, than three Horses, which are indeed not esteemed at above 1 s. 6 d. each. (*Brazill*.) Besides Sheep of the *Peruvian* Kind, *Europeans* now in vast Numbers. (*Virginia*.) All manner of *European* Cattle, Oxen, Sheep, &c. The Product chiefly Stock and Grain — Wool, &c. A Woolen Manufacture. (*New York*, *New Jersey*, *Pensylvania*) produce, chiefly Provisions exchanged with *British* and other foreign Colonies for Rum — Wool, &c. The Northern Colonies have set up a great many Manufactories. They make Woolen Cloth, Hats, &c.

Page 592, &c. (*Carolina*) Animals the same as in *Virginia*. —
 599, Of all that are in that Country, none are a less Charge
 than Sheep; and there is a particular Sort, whose Wool
 is not inferior to the finest *Spanish Wool*. (*Jamaica*)
 614, Animals, Oxen, Sheep, &c. (*Bermuda*) Beef and Mut-
 633, ton plentiful.

17. *Addenda*: ————— Scarce any thing in other
 652, Countries, which is not to be found in *China*.

18. Abundance of Oxen and Sheep in *Walachia* and
 682. *Moldavia*. In short, *Germany* abounds with Corn,
 Cattle, Sheep, and Wool.

P. S. The Extracts contained in this and the last foregoing Chapter, may serve to convey another Idea than what the *Atlas Maritimus Commercialis* gives; they are also some Support to the Testimony of the British Merchant; but a more minute, authentic and satisfactory Account of the French *Woolen Manufactures* particularly, is yet to be learned from the *Dictionnaire Universel du Commerce*; an Extract of which will be found nearer the Close of this Work. In the mean time, it is observable, that Wool is no more peculiar to Great Britain and Ireland than is Corn, or Horses, or horned Cattle. At the most, it can only be said, that in some Parts of these Islands, as a Consequence of having Sheep in vast Numbers, there is also Abundance of Wool, such indeed that was the like in every other Part of the World, it could not be a Commodity of any considerable Price.

But though Great Britain and Ireland do thus abound with Sheep and Wool, we see that these are not rare in almost any Part of the Globe, and that in many large Kingdoms they abound greatly, if not equally so, as in Great Britain and Ireland. So that I discern nothing so peculiar to these Kingdoms in respect of Wool, as this one Circumstance, viz. That while all the other Wools of the whole World besides (those of the British Plantations excepted) have the whole World for their Market, the Wool of Great Britain and Ireland is confined to one Set of Chapmen only; which Chapmen are also at their Liberty to buy Wool from all other Parts of the World whatsoever, except from the British Plantations in America. Of what peculiar Emolument this must needs be to the British Woolgrower, is submitted to the Consideration of those whom it most concerns.

C H A P.

C H A P. CXXII.

The Trade and Navigation of Great Britain considered; shewing that the surest Way for a Nation to increase in Riches, is to prevent the Importation of such Commodities as may be raised at Home: That this Kingdom is capable of raising within itself, and its Colonies, Materials for employing all our Poor in those Manufactures which we import from such of our Neighbours who refuse the Admission of ours; with some Account of the Commodities, each Country we trade with, takes from us, and what we take from them; with Observations on the Balance.

By Joshua Gee. *

1. **T**HE *English* Nation remained much in the same State, respecting Trade and Navigation, from the Time of *William* the Conqueror to the Accession of *Queen Elizabeth* to the Crown of *England*; which then consisted chiefly in transporting Tin, Lead, Wool, some Leather, Iron, and other Productions sufficient to purchase what foreign Commodities † they wanted.

2. King

* This Author was one of the Gentlemen concerned in writing *The British Merchant*. The Copy, from which I transcribe, is the fourth Edition, printed 1738. From Circumstances *, it appears to have been first printed about the ^a§.7. *Note*. Year 1728.

† This Writer, in this Paragraph particularly, hath consulted Brevity, not Truth. (See Chap. 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26.) which shew the *English* Trade in *Woolen Manufacture*, to have arrived to a very considerable Pitch, though not to its greatest Height, even before the Reign of *Queen Elizabeth*.

Page 2,

2. King *Edward III.* was the first Prince from the Conquest to his Time, that we find took any Notice of Trade; for in the Parliament held at *Westminster* in 1338, the Transportation of Wool out of the Kingdom was prohibited; and for the Encouragement of foreign Cloth-workers, and other Manufacturers, to come and settle here, a great many Privileges were granted. From his Reign to Queen *Elizabeth*, we do not find any one Prince that had much Regard for Trade. In Queen *Elizabeth's* Time many and great Advantages were added to it. King *James I.* concerned himself not much with Trade. King *Charles I.* had too many other things upon his Hands. *Cromwel* and the Rump had some excellent Notions thereof. King *Charles II.* was too indolent in that respect. King *James II.* though his natural Turn of Mind lay that way, was too intent, during his short Reign, to establish Popery. Upon King *William's* coming to the Crown, early Application was made to him for several Amendments in Trade, and for establishing a great many useful Manufactures here, viz. *Lutestrings, Alamodes, Glafs, Linen.* In his Time also Manufactures of *Copper* and *Brass* were set on Foot, which now in a great measure supply the Nation. The making of *Sail-Cloth* was also begun, and carried to great Perfection; also *Sword-Blades, Scissars* and *Toys*, made of *Steel*, which we used to have from *France*, but in which we now excel all other Nations. The setting up of *Salt Works* hath proved very beneficial here, and saves a great deal of Treasure yearly: there are besides many other things * which I forbear to enumerate.

3. At

* *New Acquisitions of Trade and Manufacture.* And as all these contribute to the Employment and Maintenance of the People, and to enrich the Merchants, &c. so they are very comfortable Reflexions, and might serve to allay that Spirit of Murmuring and Discontent, which is too frequent on the Head of Trade and Manufacture. And as many of these *new Acquisitions* do necessarily work upon the more ancient Trade of *England*, the *Woolen Manufacture*, it is rather Matter of Wonder, that it has so well maintained its Ground, as we shall find it has done, as a Branch of our foreign Trade, than that it has made no larger Advances. For in that respect, it will be seen, that no Class of Men in the

3. At present, *Turkey* takes from us chiefly broad Page 12.
Cloths, &c.; and the *English* Merchants frequently buy
up *French* and *Lisbon* Sugars, and transport thither, as
well as Bullion from *Cadiz*; so that the Balance of that
Trade is plainly against us. Yet is this very useful, as
taking off our Goods fully manufactured, and in Return,
sending us raw Materials for Manufacture and Re-ex-
portation,

4. *Italy* takes broad Cloth, &c. *England* takes from Page 13,
them, raw, thrown, and wrought Silks. Formerly we
received a considerable Balance; but the *French* now sup- Page 14.
plying them with Woolen Manufactures, Fish, &c.; and
as we import great Quantities of thrown and raw Silk
from thence, to carry on our Manufactures, it is thought
the Balance now against us is considerable.

5. *Spain* takes from us broad Cloth, &c. Stuffs, &c. Page 15.
England from them, Wine, Fruits, &c. And though
we are obliged to them for their Custom for our Manu-
factures, they are no less obliged to us for taking off their
Products. Formerly we received a very great Balance
from them in Bullion; but since the House of *Bourbon* Page 16.
has filled the *Spanish* Throne, and introduced *French*
Stuffs and Fashions, it is presumed the Balance is but very
small in our Favour.

6. *Portugal* takes from us broad Cloths, Druggets,
&c. *England* from them, Wine in vast Quantities, Oyl,
&c. and though we may allow a considerable Balance to
be brought us, yet is it not so great as some imagine.

7. *France* takes from *England*, Tobacco, Lead, &c. Page 18.
some *Flannels*. *England* from *France*, Wine, Cambrick and
Lawns, Brocades, Velvets, &c. run in upon us, Linens
in like manner, and Brandies, for which the Smugglers
carry nothing but Gold, Silver, and Wool. *France*
above all other Nations, is the worst for *England* to trade
with. It produces most Things necessary for Life, and Page 19;
wants little either for Luxury or Convenience, some few
Materials excepted, to help to carry on their Manu-
factures; of which the chief are, Wool, and some Dying
Stuffs.

the Kingdom have Reason to complain, except the Wool
GROWERS, who in Truth, as to their Price and Market
for that Commodity, have unequal and hard Usage.

Page 20. Stuffs. But they have laid down some of their best Lands for Pasturage, to improve the Growth of their Wool. Great Part of their Woolen Manufacture is indeed carried on with *Spanish* and *Irish* Wool; what they import from *Ireland* might be prevented, but instead of that, there is a Duty of 19 d*. Farthing per Stone, laid upon all that comes to *England*. So that the *French* in *Ireland* buy theirs near 20 per Cent. cheaper.

Page 21. 8. *Flanders* takes from us Serges, a few Flannels, a very few Stuffs, Sugar, &c. *England* takes from them Lace, Cambricks, Lawns, &c. to a very great Value. It is difficult to judge, as the Trade goes chiefly through the Hands of the *Dutch*, what Balance we pay them; but it is undoubtedly very considerable, we being their best Customers; and yet they prohibit our Woolen Cloths, which if freely admitted, it is thought, would not amount to one fifth of what we take from them.

Page 22. 9. *Germany* takes from *England* broad Cloth, Druggets, &c. *England* takes from them prodigious Quantities of Linnen, &c. According to the Custom-House Accounts, the Balance was thought to be in our Favour, when we were supplied by *France* with Linens; but since the high Duty upon *French* Linens, the Emperor and other Princes of *Germany* have gained that Manufacture, which has greatly enriched them. And yet, notwithstanding the Advantage they have by importing their Linens upon us, some of them have prohibited several of our Woolen Manufactures, and others have prohibited all; which gives them a very great Balance upon us.

10. *Norway* and *Denmark* takes from *England*, Guineas, Crown Pieces, Bullion, a little Tobacco, and a few coarse Woolens. *England* takes from *Norway*, Timber, Iron. We pay them a very great Balance.

Page 24. 11. *Sweden* takes from *England*, our Gold, Silver, and but a small Quantity of the Manufactures and Production of *England*; which takes from *Sweden* near two Thirds of the Iron wrought up, or consumed in the Kingdom, Copper, Planks, &c. The Balance from us before the late War with *Denmark*, amounted to between 2 and 300,000 l. Yearly, besides the Freight of their own Product.

12. *Russia*

* This Duty was taken off some Time in the Year 1730 or 1731, (See Chap. 126. §. 12.)

Ch. 122. *Memoirs of Wool, &c.* 227

12. *Russia* takes from us some coarse Cloths, long Page 25.
Elks, Worsted Stuffs, Tin, &c. *England* takes from
Russia, besides many other Things, Hemp, and having
no other Market to go to, where great Quantities may
be had, they are paid their own Prices for what we take
of them.

13. *Holland* takes from *England*, Woolen Manu- Page 26.
factures, and something of almost every Thing the King-
dom produces. *England* takes from *Holland*, fine Hol-
lands, &c. &c. But according to the Custom-House
Accounts, we Over-balance them thrice as much as we
do in *Portugal* or *Spain*. But when the great Number of
smuggling Ships are considered, it is apt to furnish the
thinking Part of Mankind with other Notions.

14. *Ireland* takes from *England* broad Cloth, Silks, Page 27:
Ribbons, Gold and Silver Lace, almost every Thing
they use *, but coarse Lincens, coarse Woolens, and Eat-
ables. *England* takes from *Ireland*, Woolen and Linen Page 28;
Yarn, Wool in great Quantities, some Tallow—But
that which makes *Ireland* so very profitable to *England*,
is, that it is thought near one Half of the Rents of the
whole, belong to *English* Noblemen and Gentlemen that
live here. They have an extraordinary Trade for their
Hides, Tallow, Beef, Butter, &c. to *Holland*, *Flan-*
ders, *France*, *Portugal* and *Spain*.

15. Our *Sugar Plantations* take from *England*, all Page 29:
sorts of Clothing, Household Goods, &c. They send
us Sugar, Ginger, &c. all the Bullion and Gold they
can meet with, and doubtless would produce Cinamon
and other Spices, &c. if they were planted, also Coffee.

16. The *Tobacco Plantations* take from *England*, their Page 30.
Clothing *, Household Goods, Utensils of all Kinds. * Ch. 120.
England takes from them, Tobacco for Use and Re-ex- §. 28. Note.
portation.

17. *Carolina* lies in a happy Climate, producing the Page 31.
best Rice in the World; no Country would afford better
Silk. 'Tis said, that Bohea and Green Tea have been
raised there, that it is capable of furnishing good Olive
Oil, Cochineal, Indigo, Iron, Hemp, Flax.

P 2

18. *Pen-*

* But *Quere*, if the Case is not much altered of late
Years, since the *Dublin Society* has given annual Premiums
to encourage the Industry and Invention of the People
here, to Manufacture and Productions of all Kinds?

Page 34.

18. *Pennsylvania*, within 40 Years, has made wonderful Improvements; which has very much enlarged their Demands upon us for broad Cloths, Druggets, Serges, Stuffs, and Manufactures of all Sorts. They supply the Sugar Plantations with Pipe-Staves, Lumber, &c. — But all that not sufficing for their Clothing, they are forced to make something by their own Labour and Industry, to answer that End.

Page 35,
36.

19. *New Jersey, New York, New England*; like *Pennsylvania*, buy their Clothing from us, what they can afford*; for the rest, they are their own Manufacturers.

20. Our Trade to *Africa* is very profitable; it carries no Money out, brings in Bullion, Gold Dust, &c. and supplies the Plantations with Negroes.

21. We send great Quantities of Bullion to the *East Indies*, as well as some Manufactures, which purchase there at very low Prices, the Products and Manufactures of *India* and *China*, which are brought home in our own Navigation; out of which we supply ourselves with Calicoes and other Cotton Cloths, sufficient for our own Consumption, as also Coffee, Tea, and raw Silk; and, it is supposed, sell † to Foreigners as many of the said Com-

* Or rather, what they want.

† Re-export, (I presume, Mr. Gee should have said,) and sell to Foreigners, *Ireland*, and the *British Plantations*.
 ‘ December 22, 1733, Mr Alderman French presented to the House of Commons [in *Ireland*] Heads of a Bill, for the more effectual Employment of the Poor, by prohibiting the Use and Wear of all wrought Silks, Bengals, and Stuffs mixed with Silks, Cotton, or Herbs of the Manufacture of *Persia* or *China*, or the *East Indies*, and of all painted Calicoes, except those painted in *Ireland* or *Great Britain*; and the said Heads were agreed to — But as passing such a Bill would have been prejudicial to the *East India Company* in *England*, a Stop was put to it.’ Quer. *If this was well judged, even for the Woolen Manufacture of England, and particularly if it is any Way consistent with good Sense and Equity (in regard to the Wool GROWER) to prohibit absolutely the Exportation of Wool from Great Britain, and from Ireland to foreign Parts; and at the same Time, to permit the Importation of foreign Manufactures (thought fit to be prohibited in Great Britain) so much as to Ireland and the Plantations?*

Commodities, or more than pay for all the Bullion shipped out.

C H A P. CXXIII.

Reasons why the Demands for our Woolen Manufactures do not increase.

By Joshua Gee.

1. **I**T is supposed that *Egypt*, the *Tyrians* and Coasts of *Syria*, were the first that entred upon the Linen and Woollen Manufactures; and as Wars and Persecutions arose, some of them shifted from Place to Place, and at last carried those Manufactures among the *Flemings*, who raised Flax and Hemp of their own, and have carried the Linen to the highest Perfection of any Place in *Europe*; and also made various and great Improvements in the Woollen. These two Manufactures drew Multitudes of People to settle in the 17 Provinces; and *England* having the greatest Quantity of the best Sort of Wool, they purchased that from us, and great Quantities were exported. Page 97.
2. *Edw. III.* saw the Advantage of the Woollen Manufacture, and made a fair Push for having it removed hither, and took proper Measures for establishing it here, as is before mentioned; but for Want of the like Care in his Successors, it did not take deep Root 'till the Reign of *Queen Elizabeth*. In her Time, that Manufactory was so effectually established, that a mighty Progress was made therein, and it increased so considerably, that they gained the Reputation of being the best in *Europe*; and a Market was opened for them, not only into *Spain*, *France*, *Italy* and *Germany*, but into *Russia*, *the Baltic*, &c. and by way of *Archangel* into *Persia*, and also a Trade was settled into *Turkey*. Ch. 122. §. 2. Ch. 17. P. S. Ch. 18. §. 8. Ch. 26. §. 7.
3. *England* carried on her Trade in the Woollen Manufacture, a considerable Time, and the rest of *Europe* carried on the Linen and other Manufactures, and exchanged them with us for our Woolens. — But the *French* Ch. 26. §. 6.

French endeavouring to enlarge the Trade and Manufactures of that Kingdom, found out several Ways to prevent the Importation of our Woolens into *France*, by causing them to be thrown into Water, and then to be shrunk and new dressed, before they were admitted to be sold; those vexatious Ways, together with the high Duties imposed upon them, soon tired out the *English* Merchant, and amounted to a Prohibition.

4. Those Proceedings gave Spirit to *Sweden* and several *German* Princes, to follow the Example of *France*; they were also willing to try whether they could not lay the *English* Woolen Manufactures under such Prohibitions and Difficulties, as to exclude the wearing them in their respective Dominions. How far they succeeded*, is too well known.

Page 100. 5. We may judge what Part *France* has gained from us, by examining into the mighty Demand there was for our Woolen Goods, when *France* was visited with the Plague, and were stopp'd from supplying foreign Markets:  The Demand for our Woolen Goods increased to so great a Degree, that the like has not happened for many Years†; but as soon as that Country was freed from the Plague, they again supplied those Markets as formerly, and the Demand for ours gradually sunk.

6. Now as we have greatly increased in our Buildings and Inhabitants within these forty Years, and have so many Competitors in the Woolen Manufactures; and *France, &c.* has gained so great a Part from us; and so many Places endeavour to keep out our Woolen Manufactures, and still continue to import their Hemp, Flax, Pot-ash, Iron, Timber, &c. upon us, which draws a very great Treasure annually out of this Kingdom; some Methods must be found out for establishing other Manufactures, for employing our Poor; otherwise our present

* But could they possibly have succeeded in any Degree; or would it have been Policy to have attempted it, had it been true, (what modern *English* Writers say) 'That our Wool for Clothing, is to all the World as much a Necessary of Life, as any Thing else?'

† May we not expect, according to this Account, that the Price of Wool in *England*, was hereby considerably advanced? This has been said; but we shall prove the contrary.

present Riches will decrease, our Lands sink in Value, and our Manufacturers be forced to go into other Countries to find Employment; which would be a Misfortune severely felt. But this may be prevented; for if we will Page 101. examine into the Conveniencies we have for carrying on the greatest and most profitable Manufacturies, we shall find that by a right Regulation of the Improvements that may be made, especially in our Colonies, we may equal, if not exceed, any Nation in *Europe*, in raising Materials for Silk, and Linen Manufacture; either of which is thought to be as considerable in the World as the Woollen, and no Way inferior to it in Point of Profit. The making and supplying ourselves with Pig and Bar Iron from the Colonies, is also very material, since Foreigners draw between two and three hundred thousand Pounds *per Ann.* from us for that Commodity, and all, to a Trifle, in ready Money.

7. Sometimes indeed there is a mighty Enquiry into Trade, and Persons are called upon to give their Thoughts, but commonly those Enquiries dye. 'Tis Page 239. true indeed, that a considerable Number of Merchants are always chose into the House; but then it has been observed, that by the mutual Opposition of those who are engaged in different Interests, they rather puzzle than give Light to the Argument in Debate; and I must confess, that I have usually found Gentlemen more ready to entertain right Notions of Commerce, as it respects the Advantage or Disadvantage of the Publick, than most Men in Trade; few of whom, though otherwise knowing and well skilled in their own Way, give themselves Trouble to look further than what concerns their own particular Interest.

C H A P. CXXIV.

*Traacts concerning the present State of Ireland,
wrote in England, but first printed at
DUBLIN 1729.*

Page 25. 1. **I**T is a received Opinion, that it were better for *England*, if *Ireland* were no more; but if we consider (apart from Prejudices and particular Interests) how greatly we are already Gainers by the Trade and Industry of that Country, poor as it is, we shall begin to think (however the Notion is exploded) that the Wealth and Prosperity of *Ireland* is not incompatible with that of *England*, but highly conducing to its Riches, Grandeur, and Power.

2. It is more than probable, that <i>Ireland</i> sends us, at present, for Coals <i>per An.</i>	l. s. d.
For Corn —————	100,000 0 0
For broad Cloths, <i>East India</i> Goods and Mercers Wares, Hops, Toys, &c.	80,000 0 0
We have all their Wool raw and unmanufactured; which as appears by the Register thereof at the Custom- House, for the Year ending at <i>Midsummer</i> 1723, amounts to, Yarn included, 271,291 Stones; which because of the Monopoly thereof, we buy at 6 s. <i>per</i> Stone; in all 81,282 l. first Cost. This by the Art and Labour of <i>English</i> Men, is converted into Cloths, &c. and by a reasonable Computation, is a Means of saving or gaining annually, over	l. s. d.
and above the first Cost ———	750 0 0
By Expence of <i>Irish</i> Outliers among us	600 0 0
So that we are Gainers by our Dealings	l. s. d.
with that Country, <i>per Ann.</i> ———	1,780,000 0 0

Page 28. 3. It is true, that in Parliaments, every Member may be supposed to labour with a more particular Assiduity, the Advantage and Emolument of that Corporation which sent him; but every other Member does the same, and this Distraction of Affairs (as I may call it) brings the Matter quicker to an Issue, and by a Majority of Voices, determines which is the common Good. But
however,

however, it sometimes happens, that the Designs of particular Societies are so gilt and varnish'd over with specious Pretences and Insinuations, that it is almost impossible to distinguish the real from the fictitious Good, and they are led into Mistakes. Instances of this might be given in many Particulars, but I shall only mention one, which has respect to our Trade with *Ireland*, and which occasioned no small Loss to us. I mean that which forbade the Importation of *Irish Beef*.

4. Before the Restoration, we were in the sole Possession of the Beef Trade, which being a bulky Commodity, afforded no small Occupation to Ships and Sailors, and no inconsiderable Profit to the Nation in general, on the Articles of Trade and Navigation. But by our suffering ourselves to be led by the Insinuations of a particular Society, we have lost those Benefits.

5. I should be glad to know with *what Face* a Petition from the *Shepherds of England* * to prohibit the Importa-

* *With what Face* ——— *Shepherds of England, &c.* ——— In the Holy Scriptures ^a Gen. we read, that *every Shepherd was an Abomination to the* xli. 34. EGYPTIANS; which the learned Dr. *Shuckford* ^b interprets, ^c *Conn-* to mean no more than that they ' *thought meanly of the* *Eion*, ' *Employment, as a lazy, idle, and unactive Profession.*' pag. 342. And this learned Writer observing, that notwithstanding this, the *Egyptians* themselves were, some of them, *Shepherds*, as well as the *Israelites*: And as these *Egyptian* *Shepherds* could not be an Abomination to themselves, so it follows, that they were meanly thought of, only by *some* of their Brethren and Fellow Subjects, who were of a different Profession; and most probably, among others, by such *Merchants of Egypt*, as traded in the human Species, young Slaves ^d, &c. Commodities fit for a rich and luxuri- ^e *Divine* ous People; and by which Traffic those Merchants them- *Legation*, selves being in course made rich, were insolent enough to vol. 2. despise Persons in that primitive, home-bred, simple Pro- pag. 31. fession, of *Herdsmen and Shepherds*. And thus our Author, whom I conceive to have been a *Merchant* of some Denomination, by a Similitude of Sense and Manners, making light of the *Landed Interest*, treats it contemptuously; and says equally of the whole *Nobility and Gentry*, ' *with what Face could the Shepherds of England, &c.?* ——— As if this was a Matter that concerned those only that were literally *Shepherds*, the *poor Hirelings* retained to follow the Flocks,

Importation of Wool, would at this Day be received in our Parliament; *it is certain it would greatly raise the Price of that produced here* *; and the same Arguments † might be framed for it, that were made Use of to procure the Prohibition of Beef; but I am sure a very indifferent Politician might however see, that the Gain of that particular Society, could in no Measure compensate the Injury it would do to our Woolen Trade, and to the Nation in general.

Page 62. 6. The nearer Commodities are bought to the Place of their Growth, the more advantageous they are to the Country importing; because Ships, Freight, Sailors Wages, &c. being but a Commutation within themselves, are no Drain to the Nation. So likewise, the farther off we can sell our own Commodities, the more advantageous is it to the Nation, the Expence and Hazard of the Navigation adding considerably to their Price at such Markets.

Page 64. 7. Premiums on the Exportation of Goods, enable the Merchant to sell them so much cheaper at foreign Markets, than he could otherwise afford them, and are of singular Use in Cases where we are underfold by others; for which Reason it is a Nations Profit to give Premiums, where the Sale of their Manufactures would otherwise be lessened.

C H A P.

Flocks, and not the *Land-owners*, who subsist by their Rents, and the *Flock-Masters*, whose Property the Sheep are, and who, besides supporting their own Families, pay those Rents with the Produce thereof. ——— And as if the most brilliant Appearances in the Kingdom, and the several polite and gainful Trades thereon depending, had not their chief Support out of the Rents paid from those Lands, on which the Sheep of *England* particularly are depastured; the same affording Wool to an extraordinary Value. ———

* However, besides some other Things that are well enough to be approved of in this Tract, I commend the Ingenuity of the Writer, in acknowledging, *that the Importation of Irish Wool and Yarn to England, does contribute to sink the Price of English Wool there.*

† And I further agree with him, that the *same Arguments* which shall be esteemed good, for prohibiting *Irish Cattle*, hold equally for prohibiting *Irish Wool and Yarn*; yet in my Opinion ought none of them to be prohibited; the same admitting of another Regulation, as I think, more agreeable to *Equity and good Policy.*

C H A P. CXXV.

The English Woolen Manufacturers Remarks on the present declining State of their Trade for Exportation, and the Necessity there is of preventing the Irish Wool being run; humbly offered to the Consideration of both Houses of Parliament 1730.

i. **T**R A D E in general does now feel the Effects of a Page 3.
long and gradual Decay * in our Woolen Trade for Exportation, as the Woolen Manufactures abroad have took Place; which is evidently owing to their getting the *Irish Wool*, and not only working it up, but with it also great Quantities of their own Wool (intermixing it with the *Irish*) into *English like* † Goods, much cheaper than *England* can. *English like Goods.*

2. 'Tis

* *A long and gradual Decay in our Woolen Trade for Exportation.* The Exports of the *English Woolen Manufactures*, at a Medium of the last four Years, exceeded their Exportations, about 16 or 18 Years ago, about 200,000 *l. per Ann.*

An Essay on Trade and Improvement of Ireland (pag. 77.) By Arthur Dobbs, Esq; Dublin printed 1729.

† *English like Goods*, an Expression, we shall see, borrowed from the *French*, now made use of for the first Time, *understood* by this, but repeated hereafter by other *English Writers*, in order to convey a very different Meaning from that in which it is used by the *French*.

Some of the *English*, it seems, being ashamed any longer to insist upon that egregious Falshood, 'that *French* and 'other foreign Wool was *useless* without a Mixture of ' *English* or *Irish*', endeavour to amuse their Countrymen with a Distinction, which they conceive may answer the Purposes of their Argument for the Possibility of something near a Monopoly in the Woolen Trade; which is this, 'that ' Foreigners, without some *English* or *Irish* Wool, can ' make no *English like Goods*, or Goods fit for a foreign ' Market.' But this we shall shew has as little Truth in it, as any former Assertions calculated for the same Ends, i. e. to deceive the People of England. The

Page 5. 2. 'Tis fully demonstrated by the great Charge and Risk * *England's* Rivals run in getting the *Irish Wool*, that as they do not need it for Quantity, having Wool of their own, 'tis for Quality, without which they cannot work up their own, into such Goods that they rival *England* in.

Page 6. 3. At present, the Interest of *England* and *Ireland*, as to their *Wool*, does very much differ; and it is *England's* absolute Interest, that none of her own nor *Irish Wool*, be run, but that all more than *Ireland's* own home Consumption does call for, be manufactured in *England* for Exportation. But 'tis *Ireland's* present Interest, that all her Wool, more than she manufactures herself (not all for home Consumption) be run, rather than exported in *Wool*, to *England*.

Page 7. 4. All *Irish Wool* exported to *England*, does pay a Duty in *Ireland* of upwards of one Penny per Pound; and likewise all *Irish Woolen Yarn* imported, pays a Duty of above

The *French*, it's true, make Goods which they call (what may be rendered) *English like*, viz. *facon de Angleterre*. And tho' it will appear, that some such Goods are made in *France*, either all, or in Part, of *English Wool*; yet it will also appear, that there are many more Goods of the same Denomination and Kind, made in *France*, without any *English Wool*, or *Irish*, and those also for a foreign Market, viz. both the *Spanish* and *Levant Trade*, *Italy*, &c. (See Chap. 151. §. 11. Chap. 157. §. 10. Chap. 158. §. 3, 5, 7, 9. Chap. 164. §. 7. Chap. 165. §. 1. Chap. 167. §. 9. Chap. 170. §. 7.)

* This Writer in particular, supports his Hypothesis (of a less Quantity of *English* or *Irish* mixed with a greater, of foreign Wool, for making *English like Goods*) by the Risks which he tells us, Foreigners run, in order to the obtaining of such *English* and *Irish Wool*; which they would not do, for the Advantage of manufacturing that Wool singly. But this is mis-stating the Case. The Subjects of *England* and *Ireland* chiefly run those Risks, to convey it to Foreigners; and their Motive is evidently, the Prospect of Gain, which attends that illicit Trade; which Gain in a great Measure arises from the Price of Wool, both in *Ireland* and *England*, being depressed considerably below its natural Value; as also, at this Time (1730) by reason of the Duties both in *Ireland* and *England*, on Wool and Woolen Yarn imported thence to *England*; which Duties were¹ estimated at a §. 11. Premium of 36 per Cent. on clandestine Exportation, ...

¹ See Chap. 126. §. 11.

above a Penny *per Pound* in *England*, besides what it pays, as *Wool*, in *Ireland*.

5. 'Tis to be feared no Law will put a Stop to *running Wool* in *Ireland*, 'till the *Irish* see it their Interest to become subservient with their *Wool* to the Interest of the *English Woolen Trade* for Exportation.

6. Taking off the said Duty on the *Irish Wool*, will not introduce it into *England* cheaper ^m than now; the ⁿ See Price in *Ireland* advancing as the Duty is taken off; but Ch. 124. it would be a very great Means to induce the *Irish Traders*. 5. to think it their Interest to put in Force such Laws, as our Parliament may find needful to prevent its being run, as *England* will be 20 *per Cent.* a better Market than now, and their Gains will not be *England's* Loss.

7. Money earned by the *English Spinners*, is now the Page 8. dearest earn't of any in the whole Manufacturing. Every Pack run, robs *England's* Poor of manufacturing three. Taking off the Duty on *Irish Woolen Yarn* imported; then by encouraging the *Irish* Poor in Spinning a Part of the *Wool* now run, into white Yarn for *England*, as now for *England's* Rivals, would be much more for the Advantage of *England's* Manufacturers, and instead of lessening either the Price of *Wool*, or of the Labour of our *English* Poor, be an absolute Means, by the great Increase of Trade, fully to employ them, though so numerous, much more to their own and Kingdoms Advantage, than bare Spinning can *.

8. More

* In short, some *English Dealers* in Woolen Manufacture, observing that since the Interruption of Commerce for Wool, between *France* and *Ireland*, (which had happened in Consequence of the Plague at *Marseilles*) was removed, there went more Wool from thence to foreign Parts, and consequently less ⁿ was brought from *Ireland* to *England*, ^a See than during such Interruption; and finding that the Price Ch. 126. of *English Wool* in *England* (which had for some Years §. 10. (c) been very low, and probably the lower, for the Quantities of *Irish Wool* and Yarn in that Period ordinarily imported) begun to look up ^o a little again; from this Time they cast ^o See a greedy Eye upon the Wool and Yarn of *Ireland*, hoping, Ch. 171. I make no Question, by Means thereof, to have *English* N^o. 5. Wool in *England* so much the cheaper; but at the same time arguing, ' that the more *Irish Wool* and Yarn was brought
' to

Page 9: 8. More than that, taking off the Duty on the said Wool and Yarn, and turning the *Irish* low Labour in *England's* Favour, would not only make them that are now employed for *England's* Rivals, see it their Interest, that such a Law be executed, but even the whole Kingdom (the clandestine Traders excepted) would assist therein, and consult the Interest of *England* as to her Woolen Manufactory for Exportation; which at once would enable *England*, not only to continue a living Price to her Poor, but also fully to employ them, and that to more Advantage than now she can, and yet to sell

‘ to *England*, the more Trade the *English* would find for ‘ Woolen Manufacture abroad, not barely in a *single*, but ‘ in a *treble* Proportion; and that the Price of *English* Wool ‘ in *England*, would advance accordingly.’ And to make this more feasible, not only the Doctrine, of every *one Pack* of *English* or *Irish* Wool exported being the Occasion of *three Packs* of Woolen Goods meeting the *English* at foreign Markets, is constantly repeated, with great Strefs laid upon it; but (which is another Absurdity) to make the *Irish* Yarn less unacceptable to the People of *England*, the Benefit to the ‘ Ch. 126. Poor of *England*, by Spinning Wool^r, is very lightly spoke of; §. 16. altho’ other Writers make Spinning to be half the Business of, and the most considerable Advantage from, the Woolen Manufacture, as it is an Employment, and a Maintenance for, otherwise helpless, Women and Children.

Now tho’ I myself am, Things being once put upon an equitable Foot, against either prohibiting, or even taxing Wool, or Yarn, from *Ireland*, yet cannot I subscribe to those who plead, that (as the Law stands) the bringing in of *Irish* does not contribute to lower the Price of *English* Wool in *England*, and that the Importation of *Irish* Yarn, is not a Means to bring down the Price of Spinning in *England*. Notwithstanding their Plea to the contrary in this Case, those who know any thing of the Matter, are well assured, that they are a Means to reduce the Price, both of Wool and Spinning; and tho’ for the most Part they chuse to insinuate the Reverse, yet at Times we find them admitting the ‘ Thing ‘ and defending the publick Utility of it. ‘ Ch. 124. § 5. For thus it is frequent in these Kind of Tracts, to find Writers suiting their Argumenis to their Convenience, without regarding the Truth of Things; and if what they advance, serves but the Purpose of a *single Job*, they are not solicitous for the Figure their anonymous Performances shall make in future Times.

sell so cheap, that she would be able to cope with the whole World in *Woolen Goods*.

9. *N. B.* As dying and fitting white *Woolen Goods* for Exportation, does, on an Average, cost 50 * *per Cent.*; preventing such Goods being exported white (that is not worn so) would greatly add to the Labour of the *English* Poor and Trade in general †.

C H A P. CXXVI.

Some Thoughts on the Woolen Manufacture of England, in a Letter from a Clothier to a Member of Parliament 1731.

1. **Y**OU are too clear-sighted to approve of their Po- Page 3.
licy, who are for creating an imaginary Distinction between the Interest of *England*, and that of *Ireland*: For you readily perceive, that Men who look on Things in this wrong Light, frequently form Opinions that prove hurtful to the Interest of *England*.

2. The Wars of *Ireland*, after the Revolution, ending in the peaceable Settlement of that Country, in the Year

* This seems to be a very extravagant Way of reckoning; but be that as it will, it would add still more to the *English* Trade, if Foreigners could be obliged to buy the Trimming, *viz.* Buttons, Thread, Silk, &c. from *England*, as well as the Cloth; and the Argument which shall be good, for absolutely prohibiting such Goods being exported white, will be equally good, for not suffering them to be exported without the necessary Quantity of proper Trimming.

† *An Act for further encouraging the Manufacture of British Sail Cloth.* 4 Geo. 2. c. 27.

This Act recites, 'that many of his Majesty's Subjects were employed in making Sail Cloth; that this Manufacture by proper Encouragement might be greatly improved and increased, therefore permits undressed Flax to be imported without Duty on Entry, &c. takes off the Drawback before allowed on Re-exportation of foreign Sail Cloth, and allows a Bounty of one Penny per Ell on British Sail Cloth exported.'

Year 1691. People betook themselves to some Industry. Thus they naturally fell into Breeding of Cattle and Sheep; and they again manufactured Wool, as they had done in former Reigns. This bred such a Jealousy in us, that in June 1698, Addresses were presented to the King by both Houses of Parliament; beseeching his Majesty to 'take effectual Measures to prevent the 'Growth of the Woolen Manufactures of Ireland *.

3. Hereupon the Commons of *Ireland*, fully inclined to satisfy us in that Matter, resolved to regulate their Woolen Trade after what Manner might be most agreeable to *England*. To this end, they had under Consideration, Heads of a Bill to limit the Number of Sheep to be kept by any person in that Country. *But that was not what We sought after: It was not OUR BUSINESS to lessen the Quantity of † WOOL in Ireland; but to prevent the manufacturing it there for foreign Markets.* Therefore the Lords Justices and Council, pursuant to Instructions from *England*, framed Heads of a Bill, where-
by

* See Chap. 85.

† Ch. 125. † Is not this the very Thing I have said †? 'That the
§. 7. Note. 'single Point laboured by certain Persons in a certain Interest (all Pretences to the contrary notwithstanding) is, 'to make WOOL and YARN CHEAP;' imagining that to be of more Service to *themselves*, than possibly *they* can receive Injury from the clandestine Exportation of Wool; altho' this is what they chuse generally to keep out of Sight, as much as possibly they can, in Complaisance to the *Landed Interest*, whom they find it necessary to endeavour at least to cajole occasionally, in order to carry their favourite Points. Notwithstanding which, out of the Abundance of their Hearts, they will now and then discover their real Views and Sentiments; as in this present Instance.

The Generality of People who have entertained that Horror about the Consequences of *exporting WOOL*, which naturally arises from a Belief of the Representations of these Writers concerning the same, have seriously condemned the *Irish Act*, as the great Cause of increasing the Growth of Wool in *Ireland*; which Increase is equally a Cause of *English* Wool being a worse Commodity in *England*, by what *Irish* Wool is imported, and also of furnishing some Wool to Foreigners, Rivals to the *English* in that Trade; and therefore, as Persons meaning well to their Country, and speaking as they meant, they have been ready to wish,
that

by four Shillings on the Value of twenty Shillings, of old Draperies, and two Shillings on the like Value of all new Draperies (except Freezes) was imposed as a new Duty on all those Manufactures of *Wool*, to be exported between the 25th of *March* 1699, and the 25th of *March* 1702. And although the Manufacturers of *Ireland* petitioned the Parliament against this Bill, yet it was readily passed into a Law; so willing were the People of *Ireland* to remove all our Apprehensions of their rivalling us in this our darling Manufacture.

4. And it is certain, this Duty (which was calculated to divert the Manufacturers by Degrees, from the Woolen to the Linen and Hempen Manufactures) would have effectually prevented the People of *Ireland* from frequenting

that there were fewer Sheep in *Ireland*, as well for the Sake of the *English Manufacturer*, as of the *English Wool Grower*. But here, a Person, under the Name of a *Clothier*, says for himself and his Fraternity, 'it was not what we sought after; it was not OUR BUSINESS to lessen the Quantity of *Wool* in *Ireland*.' And I believe he spoke the Sense of certain Dealers with equal Sincerity and Frankness.

Nevertheless, every considerate Person will believe, that the more *Wool* is produced in *Ireland*, the more, in Proportion, will be exported to foreign Parts.——But, because the more *Wool* there is in *Ireland*, the more also in Proportion may, and probably will be brought to *England*; and because that, it is conceived, will be a Means to lower the Price of *English Wool* in *England*: THEREFORE, say ALL the *English Woolen Manufacturers* in their Hearts, (what this Writer has said for himself and them) we don't want to lessen the Quantity of *Wool* in *Ireland*; altho' we are sure the *French* will come in for a Share of it; and the more the *Irish* have, for the GREATER Quantity thereof.

This is a terrible Circumstance upon the *English Wool Grower*; by which I apprehend the *Irish Act* has stood, contrary to the Opinion of Sir *Will. Temple*, who thought it could not; and which Act is contrary to the Sentiments of many Writers; for many there are, who have mentioned that Act, only for the Sake of condemning; nay, (which is much more to be remarked) out of a vast Number of Tracts on these Subjects, not a single Sentence has occurred in Favour thereof, unless this, or the like may be accounted one, viz. 'that was not what we sought after; it was not OUR BUSINESS, &c.'

Page 6.

ing the Markets we supplied with Woolen Manufactures. Or if on Trial, it had proved insufficient, other Methods might have been pursued to that End. But we did not wait the Success of this Law. Even the Concurrence of the People of *Ireland* with the Method proposed on the Part of *England*, seems to have heightened our Jealousy, by making us imagine the Manufactures of *Ireland* were arrived at a dangerous Pitch of Improvement; since they could be supposed capable of bearing such an extravagant Duty as was laid on them by their own Parliament: And therefore an Act was passed in *England*, in the Year 1699 *, prohibiting the Exportation of Woolen Manufactures from *Ireland* to any other Place but the few *Wool Ports* of *England* and *Wales*. But such Importations being left liable to Duties laid on Cloth, &c. by Acts antecedent to this I am now speaking of, that Part of the Woolen Trade which our Legislature seemed willing to allow to the People of *Ireland*, became impracticable.

* Ch. 85.
§. 7.

5. By this Means, it's true, we subverted the Woolen Manufactures of *Ireland*; but it is apprehended we, at the same time, raised more formidable Enemies to our Trade: For Numbers of Workmen being at once deprived of Employment, were drove out of *Ireland*, to seek their Bread in other Countries, (as the *Flemings* were formerly forced into *England*) and being encouraged (especially by *France*) to set up their Trades, we were soon deprived of several Markets for our *Woolen Goods*, to the very great Detriment of the general Commerce of *England*.

Page 7.

6. It is probable, these Mischiefs could not have been brought upon us; had not Means been found to carry great Quantities of *Wool* from *England* and *Ireland* to the foreign Factories. But no Prohibition could prevent the Material from following the Manufacturers, when sufficient Profit was allowed to compensate for the Risk of the Exporter. And it is certain, though no Part of *Europe* yields such large Quantities of *Wool*, proper for fine neat Drapery, as *England* and *Ireland*: Yet *Spain* has finer *Wool* than ours; and all Countries afford some Sort of *Wool*, which though much coarser, answers the Use of their common People, and when mixed with the *Wool* of these Kingdoms, serves for several Sorts of Manufactures.

manufatures fit for general Use in all Countries. So that we find by sad Experience, that we acted too precipitately, in destroying, instead of regulating the Woolen Trade of *Ireland*; and perhaps the best Remedy we can apply to the Mischief hereby brought upon ourselves, is to tread back the Steps wherein we have so long wandered.

7. I would not have you from hence to imagine, that I think it proper to allow the Exportation of Woolen Manufatures from *Ireland* to any other Parts but *England*; for that is not my Purpose. On the contrary, the Advantages arising from the Woolen Trade, are what we ought to confine as much as possible to *England*. In order to which, it may be worth considering, whether by the Assistance of *Ireland* we might not recover those Branches of our Trade, out of which the *French* and other Nations have very near beat us, by the Cheapness of their Labour. And if, to effect this, it may appear necessary to shew some Favour to the Poor of *Ireland*, we ought not to grudge it them.

8. That you may have a more perfect View of the State of this Case, I must entreat you to cast your Eyes on the following Abstract, taken from the Custom-House Books of *Ireland* for five Years, immediately before the Revolution, and five Years after the War in *Ireland*, Page 104 viz. from 1693 to 1697 inclusive — — — — — It appears, that tho' the People of *Ireland*, before the Revolution, had made some Progress in the Woolen Manufacture, yet in the Year of their greatest Exports, viz. Ann. 1687, the Value of all their Manufatures (except Yarn that came to *England*) did not exceed 70,521 *l.* 14 *s.* and of that Sum, 56,485 *l.* 16 *s.* was in Freezes', Ch. 84 a Manufacture we never trouble our Heads with, and §. 15. 2,520 *l.* 18 *s.* in coarse *Irish* Stockins; both amounting to 59,006 *l.* 14 *s.* So that the old and new Draperies, which alone could interfere with our Trade, did not exceed 11,514 *l.* 10 *s.* And it is observable, that more Wool and Yarn was brought into *England*, that Year, than in any of the preceding Years. For Instance, the Quantity of Yarn, that Year, brought from *Ireland* to *England* at 18 Pound to the Stone, was 3668 Stones; of Wool, 256,592 Stones. From whence it is evident,

Q 2

that

that our Manufacture increased * in Proportion as the Trade of *Ireland* prospered.

9. From the Custom-House Accounts, for the five Years after the War in *Ireland*, it appears, that in the Year 1697, being the Year before we complained of their Manufactures, tho' they had been every Year increasing, yet they had not recovered above one third Part of the Woolen Trade which they had before the War, (*viz.* the total Value of Manufactures this Year exported, was 23,614*l.* 9*s.* 6*d.* namely, in Freezes and Stockins, 14,625*l.* 12*s.*; in old and new Drapery, 8988*l.* 17*s.* 6*d.* Yarn to *England*, 13,480 Stones, Wool, 217678 Stones †.) Also, as before, so after the Revolution, the Manufactures exported from *Ireland* were mostly Freezes and coarse Stockins: And in Proportion as the People of *Ireland* improved in these Manufactures, so the Quantities of Wool ‡ and Yarn exported from thence to *England*, increased. And perhaps you will from these Observations conclude, that since we thought proper to grasp at all this Trade, and declare our Jealousy even of our Fellow

Page 11.

* This in itself is no Evidence of the Increase of the *English* Manufacture. For tho' more Wool and Yarn was imported from *Ireland* to *England*, than in some preceeding Years, yet, as that would naturally reduce the Price of *English* Wool and Yarn, so it would only increase the Temptation in *England* to export Wool clandestinely. Accordingly, we find it to have been so notoriously the Case in the short Reign of King *James II.* that the Clothiers of several of the clothing Countries petitioned the said King *James II.* for the Redress of that Grievance; upon which he gave a Commission to the *Merchant Adventurers of England*, to prevent the Exportation of Wool, and to collect a voluntary Contribution towards the Expence of the same, *as see* (Chap. 112. §. 7. Note.)

† Which was 9812 Stones of Yarn more, in 1697, than in 1687, and 38913 Stones of Wool, *less*.

‡ The Connection here, is much like that of the *Goodwin Sands and Tenterden Steeple*. Our Author had been nearer the Truth, if he had said, that in Proportion as their Stock of Sheep increased in *Ireland*, so the Quantities of Wool and Yarn exported from thence to *England*, increased likewise. For thus in 1693, when they had but few Sheep, they imported, of Yarn, only 1897 $\frac{1}{2}$ Stones; of Wool, no more than 37888 Stones.

Fellow Subjects of *Ireland* enjoying such a small Pittance of it, it had been more prudent to have proceeded by Methods proper to turn the Industry of the People of *Ireland*, by Degrees, from the Woolen to other Manufactures, than to have followed the Course we took with them.

10. It is true, that for some few Years after we had destroyed the Woolen Manufactures of *Ireland*, we seemed to engross all that Trade; but this Appearance of Benefit abated, as the foreign Factories, which were raised out of the Ruins of the *Irish*, acquired Strength, and Means were contrived to draw the Material after the Manufacturers. This is but too evidently our Case; however, to shew you how it stands with regard to *Ireland*, I give you some Abstracts of the Wool and Yarn exported from thence for *England* in several Periods of Time.

And first, for the four Years after the Destruction of the *Irish* Manufactures, we find exported.

(A)				
		Wool	Yarn	Total
		Stone at	Stone at	Wool and
		18 lb.	18 lb.	Yarn.
Year ending at <i>Christmas.</i>	1700	336,292	26,617	362,909
	1701	302,812	23,390	326,202
	1702	315,473	43,648	359,121
	1703	360,862	36,873	397,735
Total for } 4 Years.		1,315,439	130,528	1,445,967
Medium } for each Year.		328,859 $\frac{1}{4}$	32,632	361,491 $\frac{1}{4}$

246 *Memoirs of Wool, &c. Ch. 126.*

The next Abstract of the Exports of the Wool and Yarn is for four Years taken at the Time of the Peace of *Utrecht*, viz. for the Years,

(B)

		Wool Stone at 18 lb.	Yarn Stone at 18 lb.	Total Wool and Yarn.
Year ending at <i>Lady-day</i> .	1711	310,136	55,273	365,409
	1712	263,946	60,108	324,054
	1713	171,871	68,548	240,419
	1714	147,153	58,147	205,300
Total for 4 Years. —	}	893,106	242,076	1,135,182
Medium for each Year.	}	223,276½	60,519	283,795

(C)

Year ending at <i>Christmas</i> .	1726	51,371	87,261	138,632
	1727	58,182	72,047	130,229
	1728	49,784	80,428	130,212
	1729	38,667	91,854	130,521
Total for 4 Years. —	}	198,004	331,590	529,594
Medium for each Year.	}	49,501	82,897½	132,398½

Thus it appears, that the Imports of Wool from *Ireland*, gradually decreased, from the Year 1703 to this Time; and 'tis worth observing, since it seems to point out the Cause of this Decrease, that on the Peace of *Utrecht*, the Exports of Wool from *Ireland* to *England*, fell short of what they were, during the War. Inso-much, that the Decrease from the Year 1711 to the Year 1714, was 162,983 Stones; which it is more than probable

probable found its Way into *France* *. And from these Abstracts it appears, that the Difference between the Total of Wool and Yarn, exported in the Year 1703, and 1729, is 267,214 Stones. So that upon the whole, we may conclude, that (which was before-observed) as the Trade of *England* increased, and our Imports of Wool from *Ireland* grew greater, in Proportion as the People of *Ireland* improved in their coarse Manufactures: So we have diminished in our Imports of Wool from *Ireland*, and I am afraid in our Manufactures at home, and our *foreign Trade* † also, in a very strong Degree, ever since we destroyed the Woolen Manufactures of *Ireland*. So true is it, that *England* can never fall into Measures for unreasonably cramping the Industry of the People of *Ireland*, without doing herself the greatest Prejudice.

11. The Duty, and extraordinary Charges, attending the legal Exportation of Wool from *Ireland*, amounted, in all, to about 2 s. 4 d. per Stone. And as the Price of Wool in the Farmers Hands in *Ireland*, by a Medium, from the Year 1703 to 1729, did not exceed 6 s. 6 d. per Stone, the saving of 2 s. 4 d. a Stone, Duty, amounted it, I may so call it, to a Premium of 36 per Cent. on clandestine Exportation, which with other Encouragements in the Countries to which they carried the Wool,

* Very probably it did; nevertheless, *English* Wool rose in this Period critically, from 15 s. to 18 s. a Tod. (See Chap. 109. P. S.) and whoever reads the *British Merchant* (See Chap. 104, 108.) will be more apt to impute the Rise of Wool in *England*, at that Time, to a Deficiency of the usual Quantity of Wool from *Ireland*, than to any real Advance or Increase of the *English* Trade. The Difference between 1711, and 1714, was upwards of 10,000 Packs, less, in the latter, than in the former Year; which Quantity of *Irish* Wool, more, or less, in the *English* Markets, is, I am persuaded, sufficient to give some Turn to the Price of Wool in *England*, in any Year.

† This is a Matter which the Clothier was only afraid of, would not say certainly. And whoever looks into the Custom-House Accounts (such as have by any Means come to Light) of the Woolen Exports from *England*, in, and since the Year 1699, will either think him very ignorant on that Head, or strongly inclined to impose upon his Readers.

Wool, was an Incitement to, and Compensation for the Risks run.

12. A due Consideration of this Matter prevailed with his Majesty to pass an Act, the last Session of Parliament in *Ireland*, whereby the Duty on Wool exported from that Kingdom to *England*, was taken off. Thus the clandestine Trader is deprived of Part of the Advantages he had over the Fair-Dealer. And when more Ports are opened in *Ireland* and *England* for exporting and importing Wool, it is evident, the Fair-Dealer will be put on a more equal Foot of Trade than formerly; and this will of Course prove a great Obstruction to the running of Wool from *Ireland*.

13. The next Article that requires our Attention, is the Woolen Yarn * imported from *Ireland*. This Produce of the Labour of the Poor of that Country, has always been found useful to us in carrying on our Manufactures. Yet, I know not by what Policy, it has been charged with Duties, both on the Exportation from *Ireland*, and Importation to *England*. But the Duty payable in *Ireland*, was released by the same Act which took off the Duty of Wool. However, Yarn imported from *Ireland* is still liable to a Duty here, which with the Charge of License †, and the Inconvenience of a few Ports for Exportation and Importation, amounts to 2 s. 7 d. a Stone, of 18 Pound; so that each Pack of Yarn weighing 240 Pound, is liable to a Charge of 1 l. 15 s. 6 d. which amounts to about 18 per Cent. so that we ought not to hesitate at easing our Trade from this Burthen. Our own Interest calls upon us so to do; and the Policy of *France* (who finding now that the Duty on Wool exported from *Ireland* to *England* is taken off, she cannot get raw Wool as formerly, admits the Importation of Yarn, which before she would not receive) makes it

* Now we come to the main Point at which this Writer is driving, viz. to get the Duty taken off from *Irish* Yarn. All he has said before, is but a Parenthesis to this.

† ' We pay for a License (together with the Fees) to the Lord Lieutenant of *Ireland*, for every Thousand great Stones of Wool, exported to *England*, about Twenty-three Pounds.'

A Scheme to prevent the running of Irish Wools to France: By a Merchant, 1745. (p. 40.)

it absolutely necessary we should give this Ease to the Importation of *Irish* Yarn, in order to prevent our Rivals from reaping the Benefit, which is to be made of the Wool and Labour of the Poor of *Ireland*.

14. But it is objected, that, as, by falling into these Courses, larger Quantities of Wool will be imported from *Ireland* than formerly; so the Price of that Commodity will be thereby lowered amongst us, and consequently the Value of our Land abated. And that by admitting *Irish* Yarn Duty free, we shall deprive the Poor of a great Means of their Subsistence. These, it must be confessed, are popular Objections, and apt to take with Men who consider this Matter superficially; but when they are duly weighed, they will be found altogether groundless. Nay, it will appear, that encouraging our Manufactures in these Particulars, must, on the contray, raise the Price of our Wool, and give fuller Employment to our Poor. Page 17.

15. To make this appear, it is necessary to observe *, that every Stone of Wool clandestinely exported from *Ireland*, enables our Rivals in the Woollen Trade, to work up two Stones more of their coarse hairy Wool, into a Manufacture, which supplants us in foreign Markets. Consequently, if there are 200,000 Stones of Wool clandestinely exported from *Ireland*, then it follows, that we lose by that pernicious Trade, not only the Benefit of manufacturing those 200,000 Stones of *Irish* Wool, and the consequential Profits thereon, but our Farmers, a Demand for 400,000 Stones more; and our Manufacturers are deprived of Employment in working up this Quantity of Wool also. And thus it is, that the clandestine Exportation of Wool has always lowered the Value † of *English* Wool, by destroying
our

* To believe, what is as credible as Transubstantiation.

† If the Case was really so, as is thus commonly represented, touching the Mixture of *English* or *Irish* Wools with foreign, methinks it might not be difficult (and which would carry more Conviction along with it) not only to instance in what Sort of Goods this Mixture is used, but also to explain after what manner it is performed.

Or, if Persons, rather than shut their Eyes, to have this Notion crammed into them, would consult their Reason
and

our Trade, robbing our Poor of Employment, and depriving our Farmers of a Demand for double the Quantity of Wool run, and transferring all these Benefits to other Countries. If therefore we can prevent this destructive Trade, and thereby bring the Wool of *Ireland*, suppose, 200,000 Stones more than formerly, into *England*; it is evident, that tho' this increases the Quantity of Wool in *England*, yet as it restores to us a more extended Trade, and a Demand for Manufactures to be made, not only by these 200,000 Stones, but also by 400,000 Stones more of our Wool, it must raise, instead of lowering the Price of Wool in *England*.

Page 18. 16. As to the Objection, that the admitting of *Irish* Yarn, Duty Free, will deprive the Poor of Employment, the contrary will appear, on a full Examination of this Question. Experience hath taught us, that our Neighbours daily encroach on this Branch of our Trade. But if we prevent their getting the Wool or Yarn of *Ireland*, we shall soon recover our Commerce *, to the general Advantage of *England*. And as thereby we shall have Occasion for many more Hands in every Branch of this Manufacture; so it is necessary we should employ the Poor of *Ireland* in Spinning their Wool, which was formerly carried out of that Kingdom into other Countries. And as the Article of *Spinning* † is an *inconsiderable* † Part of the Woolen Manufacture, when compared

* See
Ch. 125.
§. 7. Note.

and their Senses, they would consider whether *English* and *Irish* Wool can be to foreign (in order to the producing of good Manufacture) what *Lapis Calimnaris* is to Copper, for the making of Brasses; whether it is, as Varnish to common Paint, or capable of being used in the Loom, as Ebony and fine Woods are, for Finiere, in Cabinet Work. In short, whether there is a natural Possibility of so mixing finer and coarser Wools, as that the coarse shall not take as much from the fine, as the fine can possibly add to the coarse; and whether in Manufacture, from mixed Wools, the Quality of the Cloth or Stuff will not most resemble the Quality of that Wool whereof it contains the greatest Quantity.

* This, upon the Supposition of what is by no means true, *viz.* that Wool and Yarn is not to be had elsewhere, (See Chap. 105. §. 12, 14.)

† A Pack of short Wool made into Cloth, is computed to

Ch. 126. *Memoirs of Wool, &c.* 251

pared with the other *valuable Trades* it employs, we ought in Prudence to discharge the Duties which were formerly laid on the Importation of Yarn from *Ireland*. For thus it appears, that the Importation of large Quantities of Wool and Yarn from *Ireland*, instead of lowering the Price of Wool, and depriving our Poor of Employment, will have quite contrary Effects.

17. *P. S.* This Author, having given us (§. 10.) the Remark. Imports of Wool and Yarn to England from Ireland, in three several Periods, of four Years each, within the Space of Thirty, proceeds to make his own Use thereof; and whereon I desire also to offer some Remarks; having first subjoined the following further Custom-House Accounts, wherewith Mr. Dobbs has obliged the Public (in his Essay on the Trade and Improvement of Ireland, printed at Dublin, 1729).

18. *The Medium* of the Importations of Wool and Yarn from Ireland to England, for 8 Years, to Lady- &c. By Arthur Dobbs, Esq; p. 76

19. *The Value of the whole Exports from Ireland to England were,*

		<i>l.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>
In the Year	1720	363,529	10	05
	1721	440,964	17	06
	1722	544,002	7	08
	1723	554,431	1	04
	1724	476,632	14	00

Page 53.

20. *The*

to employ 63 Persons a Week, whereof are 35 Women and Girls to spin it, eight Men to sort, dry, &c. scribble and Stock card it; in the whole, 43 Persons, of the 63. For the same Quantity of long Wool made into Stuffs, &c. the Wages is said to amount to 43 *l.* 10 *s.* whereof the Combers and Spinners Share is 21 *l.* 10 *s.* For the same Quantity wrought into Stockins, the Wages are 56 *l.*; whereof the Combers and Spinners earn 20 *l.* 17 *s.* (See *Chambers Dictionary, Woolen Manufactory.*) But as every Thing is evident which this Writer sees necessary to advance, so nothing is considerable that happens to stand in his Way.

20. *The Value of the Produce of Sheep exported from Ireland.*

		l.	s.	d.
Page 17.	In the Year 1720	89,401	10	00
	1721	135,196	11	01½
	1722	162,476	3	04½
	1723	187,284	03	04
	1724	132,148	19	01½
	1725	95,730	13	01½

¶ §. 19. 21. Observe here, a great Exceeding^a in the whole Exports of Ireland to England, from 1721 to 1724 inclusive, and the like^b in the Value of the exported Produce of Sheep particularly, from Ireland; and that in both^c Instances, such Exceeding rose highest, in the Year 1723. Now, the exported Produce of Sheep from Ireland (so far as that is legal, and, as such, can appear at the Custom-House) is chiefly WOOL and YARN sent to England. So that here is plainly an excessive Importation of Irish Wool and Yarn to England, from 1721 to 1724 inclusive; and that Excess was greatest in the Year 1723. And this (we

¶ Ch. 174. shall see^d) is to be accounted for, from the Incident of the Plague at Marseilles, which first broke out in June 1720.

22. But whereas our Clothier the Author of this

¶ Ch. 126. Tract, has said^b that from his Account^c it appears, §. 10. 'that the Imports of Wool from Ireland, had gradually decreased from the Year 1703 to 1729;' and thence infers (rightly enough) that what did not, as usual, come to England, 'probably found its Way into France:' I observe that the gradual Decerease by him alledged, does not so plainly appear, from his Account, neither in Truth was it altogether, and constantly, the same as HE has represented it.

23. For, 1st, there is in his Accounts^c, one particular Chasm, larger than the rest, viz. eleven Years together omitted; not (I apprehend) without Design; namely from 1715 to 1725 inclusive. And we have seen a Custom-House Account in this Case, for one of those Years (1722, i. e. one Year, ending Midsummer 1723^d) by which it appears, that of Wool and Yarn, in that Year, was imported from Ireland to England, 271,291 Stones; which exceeds

¶ §. 10. (B) (C)

¶ Ch. 124. §. 2.

Ch. 126. *Memoirs of Wool, &c.* 253

exceeds the Medium of the Years 1713, 1714^a, by 48,432^a See
 Stones. Moreover, Mr. Dobbs (§. 18.) having given the Ch. 126.
 Medium of those Importations from Ireland (from the Cu- §. 10.
 from-House Books there) for eight Years, to Lady-day, (B) 1713^a,
 1728, the same appears to be 227,049 Stones; which still 1714^a
 exceeds the Medium of 1713, 1714, by 4,190 Stones.
 These, indeed, do all exceed the Medium, from 1726 to
 1729^a inclusive. And so far it is true, that there has^a Ch. 126.
 been a Decrease; yet not so constantly gradual, but that §. 10.
 these Imports have been also desultory, and sometimes vastly (C)
 exceeding, not only the Medium of the eight Years, to
 Lady-day 1728, but possibly, the Medium of the whole
 Period, from 1711 to 1714^a inclusive; as may be thus^a Ch. 126,
 made out. §. 10.

24. The Medium, for eight Years, to Lady-day 1728, (B)
 was (as above-observed) 227,049 Stones; which Quantity
 multiplied by eight, produces 1,816,392 Stones. That is,
 so much was the whole Quantity imported from Ireland
 to England, in eight Years, to Lady-day 1728; whereof,
 in 1722, i. e. one Year, ending Midsummer,

1723 ^a	271,291 Stones	Ch. 124,
1726 ^a	138,632	§. 2.
1727	130,229	Ch. 126,
		§. 10.
		(C)
Total in these 3 Years		540,152 Stones

Which deducted from the whole

Quantity — 1,816,392 Stones
 (for eight Years) there remains,

for the other five Years — 1,276,240 Stones

Which divided by five, is, — 255,248 Stones

for each of the remaining Years, viz. 1720, 1721, 1723,
 1724, 1725.

25. But, the Year 1722 (i. e. ending Midsummer
 1723) being 271,291 Stones, it exceeds such Medium of
 255,248, by 26043 Stones, as the said Medium, of 255,248,
 exceeds the Year 1727 (which was but 130,229^a) by^a Ch. 126.
 125019 Stones.) §. 10.

26. Now, there being, as has been said, and as we (C) 1727.
 are ready to allow in the main, a gradual Decrease (tho'
 not so constantly regular as has been alledged) from 1703
 to 1729: In order to find out what was the probable
 Quantity

254 *Memoirs of Wool, &c. Ch. 126.*

- Quantity in 1724 and 1725, two of the five Years in Question; suppose we take them at the Medium of the Year ending, Midsummer 1723 (which was 271,291 ¹ Ch. 126. Stones) and the Year 1729 (which was 130,521 ² Stones) §. 10. in the whole, for the Years 1724, 1725, 401812 Stones.
- (C) 1729. Deducting then 401812, the Quantity thus given for the two Years (1724, 1725,) from 1276240, the whole Quantity of the five Years; 1720, 1721, 1723, 1724, 1725, and there will remain 874428 for 1720, 1721, and 1723. Which 874428 Stones, for three Years, is 291476 Stones, for each of those Years, upon a Medium; and which exceeds the Medium of the whole Period¹, from 1711 to §. 10. (B) 1714 inclusive, by a Medium of 7681 Stones.
- ² §. 19^a 27. But then, it appearing ² that both the whole Exports from Ireland to England, and the Value of the Produce of Sheep particularly, exported from Ireland, in the Year 1723, did vastly exceed the same in the Year 1720, or even in 1721; and (which is most to be observed) it appearing also that the Value of the exported Produce of Sheep from Ireland, was more than twice as much in 1723, as in 1720.—Hence it follows², that the Importation of Wool and YARN from Ireland to England, was more than double, in 1723, to what it was in 1720.
28. Allowing therefore twice 291486 Stones (the Medium, for one Year, of the supposed Total for three Years³) to two of them, 1720, 1723, (which is 582972 Stones) and of that, allotting two Thirds to 1723, for the Reason⁴ §. 27. already⁴ given; and thus we have, in that one Year (1723) imported from Ireland to England, 388648 Stones of⁵ §. 10 (A) Wool and Yarn; which is more than the Medium of⁶ Ch. 52. 1700--3 by 27157 Stones; more than in 1698⁷; and (of all §. 4. Note. the Accounts we have seen) only less than in the single Year⁸ §. 10. 1703⁸ (which was 397735 Stones) viz. more than we (A) 1703. have hitherto supposed for the Year 1723, by 9087 Stones.
29. But if, besides that the Value of the exported Produce of Sheep from Ireland (i. e. of Wool and Yarn⁹ from thence to England) was more than double, in 1723, to what it was in 1720, we add this further Consideration, that the Exceedings in that Respect, of the Year 1723, were to those of 1721, as¹⁰ 187,284 l. to 135,796 l. viz. a Difference of no less than 51488 l. chiefly in Wool and Yarn, (as before observed.) And if consequently we abate, in the Year 1721, what may reasonably be accounted
- ¹ See §. 21.
- ² See §. 20.

accounted of) on the Score of that Difference) from the 291,476 Stones (the Quantity allotted on a Medium to that Year) and, of such Abatement; add so much as is reasonable, to 388,648 Stones, the Quantity already assigned (in this Computation) to the Year 1723 (as being more than double to the Year 1720) Here is then, tho' not a clear Demonstration, yet a very strong Presumption that the Quantity of Wool and Yarn, imported from Ireland to England, in the Circle of 12 Months, commencing or ending some Time in the Year 1723, did exceed 400,000 Stones. A Sign that IRELAND does in Reality produce MORE Wool, and has MORE of that Produce to spare, than some (we shall find *) are willing to acknowledge.

30. And this is to be urged, in Abatement of what Mr. Dobbs particularly hath suggested *, ' that the Decrease in the usual Imports, of Wool and Yarn, from Ireland to England, of late Years, is an Indication that the Stock of Sheep in that Kingdom, and consequently the whole Quantity of Wool grown there, has been for some Time decreasing.' Whereas, I think, we are rather to impute such Decrease to a growing Excess (as one Cause) of Wool and Yarn transported thence to FRANCE and other foreign Parts; and (as another) to an Increase, at the same Time, of the Woollen Manufacture in Ireland, both for home Use, and for clandestine Exportation *. * See Ch. 143. N^o. 1. §. 1. A Computation. N^o. 6. §. 2, 3. Essay, &c. p. 76.

31. Further, the extraordinary Importations of Irish Wool and Yarn to England, from 1721 to 1724 inclusive, is to be noted, as one Cause why the Price of English Wool in England, fell as we shall see * it did, in that Period, notwithstanding an Increase in the English Woollen Exportation Trade, and contrary to what this Clothier has taught (§. 13—16, and more particularly §. 14,) viz. ' That a larger Importation of Wool and Yarn from Ireland, is a Means to raise the PRICE of OUR WOOL.' Which, though it be not true, yet is it granting, tacitly at least (what Dr. Davenant * and some others, have occasionally and publicly denied, with great Assurance) viz. that ' it is the Benefit and Interest of ENGLAND in general, that OUR WOOL should bear a good Price in our Markets at home.' * See Chap. 85. §. 10. Ch. 174. §. 17, 18. Ch. 79. §. 23.

C H A P. CXXVII.

*Report from the Commissioners of Trade to
the Lords, 1731-2.*

*P. S. Also from the same to the Commons,
1732.*

May it please your Lordships,

1. **H**IS Majesty having been pleased, in Consequence of your Lordships Address, of the 6th of *May* last, to direct the Commissioners for Trade and Plantations, to receive all such Proposals as should be laid before them, for preventing the pernicious Practice of running Wool from *England* and *Ireland*, and to consider of, and to propose proper Methods for preventing the same for the future, to be laid before your Lordships in this Session of Parliament: We did thereupon give publick Notice in the Gazette of the 12th of *June* last, that we were ready to receive any Proposals which should be made to us on this Head, from all Persons whatsoever.

2. Since the Publication of this Advertisment, which was often repeated in the Gazette and other publick Papers, we have been attended by several Persons, and many Schemes have been transmitted to us from different Parts of this Kingdom, and from *Ireland*; containing various Proposals upon this Subject; some of which are come but very lately to our Hands; and it has been with great Satisfaction, that we have observed the Zeal with which so many Persons have applied themselves to consider of proper Methods, for putting a Stop to a Practice so very pernicious to the trading Interest of their Country.

3. Those who seem to have most maturely considered this Matter, concur in Opinion, that nothing can put so effectual a Stop to this Evil, as the finding out some certain Method of knowing the whole Quantity of Wool that may be in the Kingdom, whether in Warehouses or on the Sheeps Back, and tracing it through the Hands of the Wool Stapler, and all the Traders who deal in this
Commodity,

Commodity, 'till it shall be finally wrought up by the Manufacturer.

4. In order to this, it has been proposed, that Warehouses should be erected at the publick Expence, in such Counties of *England* and *Ireland*, where considerable Numbers of Sheep may be fed, or where the Wooleh Manufacture may be carried on in any great Extent, into which the Wool of the two Kingdoms should be brought within a certain Number of Days after it is shorn, in order to be afterwards transported, under proper Regulations, from *Ireland* to *England*, and from one County of *England* to another, in Proportion to the Demand there may be for it among the Manufacturers.

5. Others have proposed, that general Registers should be established in *England* and *Ireland*, for entering the exact Number of Sheep and Lambs, with the Yearly Quantity of Wool shorn from them, or pulled from the Skins, together with the Names of all such as deal in the Commodity.

6. In Addition to the Proposition for public Warehouses, it has been offered by another Hand, that all the Wool produced in this Kingdom, should be bought in the King's Name at certain Prices, to be ascertained at a Medium, upon the different Growths of Wool, for so many Years past, and that the Product of the first Year's Growth, and the Value of the Stock in Hand, should be paid for by a small Land-Tax, of three * Pence or six Pence in the Pound; by which Means, the Growers would receive ready Money for their Wool, which would be very beneficial both to Landlords and Tenants. But if this should be thought impracticable, it is further proposed by the same Person, that Payment for the Wool may be postponed, till it be sold in Part, or in the Whole, or that the Growers should be left at Liberty, to sell it themselves to the Manufacturers, provided they deliver it to the Storekeeper, under proper Regulations.

7. Many

* The present Land Tax of 4 s. (as it is commonly called) in the Pound, does not raise two Millions in *England* and *Wales* : But the Wool of *England* and *Wales* was long since estimated at full two Millions yearly. * Ch. 48.
§. 1. *Novo.*

7. Many of the Proposers concur in Opinion, that the best Method of preserving an exact Knowledge of the Wool in its Progression, from the first Growers to the Manufacturer, will be to put it under the Inspection of the Officers of Excise; and different Methods have been suggested for putting this Proposal in Execution.

8. It has been said under the same Head, That all Dealers in Wool, may be obliged to enter the Ware-houses and Store-rooms, wherein they keep their Commodities, with the Excise Officer of their Division; into which the Officer shall have free Admission at any Time, and no Wool should be brought into the Ware-house, before Notice given of it to the Excise-Office, under a certain Penalty.

^b Ch. 114.
§. 6.
Ch. 146.
N^o. 3.

9. That every Owner of Sheep shall give Notice when he intends to shear his Flock, that the Officer may be present, to take an Account of the Number of Sheep, and Weight of Wool shorn, and that every Felmonger may be obliged to inform the Officer of that Division of the Weight of the Wool which he shall pull from Skins, and in general, that all Dealers in Wool shall be obliged to give an Account to their Excise Officer of all the Wool in their Possession; that no Wool shall be removed from Ware-houses so entered, except by virtue of a Permit from the Excise Officer, to be renewed as often as the Wool shall pass from one Dealer to another, till it comes to the Hands of the Manufacturer.

10. It has been likewise suggested, that the Excise Officer may take a Bond from the first Buyer, whereby he shall oblige himself to manufacture the Wool he buys; but if the Purchaser be not a Manufacturer, that then Notice should be given to the Officer of the Division, whenever the Wool should be re-fold, either in the Whole, or in Part, and fresh Bonds be given by the Buyers, till the same shall be finally manufactured; and some have thought that for the better Security of this Matter, the Manufacturer should be obliged to make Oath, that he will manufacture the Wool he buys.

11. Without doubt, the keeping Sight of the Wool, from the Time it is shorn, till it is brought into the Hand of the last Manufacturer, might greatly contribute to the putting a Stop to the running of Wool. *But all the foregoing Proposals would probably be attended with a Multiplicity*

Ch. 127. *Memoirs of Wool, &c.* 259

Multiplicity of Accounts, besides other Difficulties, and great Expence. We would therefore humbly offer some other Methods to your Lordships, which seem liable to fewer Difficulties, but may nevertheless be very conducive to the Cure of this Grievance.

12. With regard to *Great Britain*, we would propose, That the Law ^b now in Force in *Kent* and *Suffex*, intituled, An Act, &c. may be extended to all Parts of the Kingdom within ten Miles of the Sea ^c Coasts. ^b See 9, 10 W. III. ^c 40. Ch. 78.

13. That no Wool be brought or imported from *Ireland* into this Kingdom, or Coast-wise in *England*, except in Vessels registered ^d and appointed solely for that Purpose; and that all Wool shipped on Board any other Vessel, shall be liable to Seizure, by the Captains of his Majesty's Ships of War, by the Commanders of the Register Ships, and Custom-House Officers, and Excise Officers, and by all others Persons duely authorized; and that Officers be appointed to put the Laws in Execution against the running of Wool, with ample Encouragement to the Informers, easily to be recovered, and proportionable Penalties laid on Offenders. ^d See 12. Geo. II. ^e 21. (Ch. 148. P. 3.)

14. But as every Thing that may be proposed for the Cure of this Evil in *Great Britain* only, would be far from answering the Design upon the whole, unless proper Methods should at the same Time be found to prevent the Exportation of Wool, and of Woollen Manufactures from *Ireland* to foreign Parts; so many of the same Persons who have considered this Matter, with respect to *Great Britain*, have also extended their Thoughts to *Ireland*.

15. And some of them have proposed to apply the foregoing Expedient of Country Ware-houses, general Registers, and the Inspection of the Custom-House Officers, as proper to be put in Practice in *Ireland*; with this Addition, that certain Staple Towns should be appointed in that Kingdom, for the Reception of Wool grown there.

16. But we are of Opinion, That the most likely Means, and most attainable for these Purposes, would be absolutely to prohibit the shipping of Wool in *Ireland*, except in Ships and Vessels registered and appointed for that Service only; and no Wool ^e Licenses should be granted

granted for shipping of Wool aboard any other Vessel.

17. That the explanatory Clause contained in an Act passed in the 11th and 12th of his late Majesty King William^d (whereby Leave was given to every Mariner, or Passenger on Board the Ship, to furnish himself with the Woolen Manufacture of *Ireland*, to the amount of 40 s.) may be repealed; since it is highly probable, that under this Pretence, the Woolen Manufactures of *Ireland* first found their Way to foreign Markets in large Quantities.
18. That the Captains of *English* Men of War, and Sloops, as well as the Commanders of the Register Ships, and all Officers of his Majesty's Customs and Excise, may be invested with full Power and Authority, to seize all *Irish* Woolen Goods, which they shall find on any Ship or Vessel whatsoever, and all Wool which shall be found on Board of any other but the said Register Vessels.
19. And these Provisions are the more necessary, because we have been credibly informed, that of late Years, *British* Merchants have given no small Encouragement to the *Irish* Woolen Manufactures, by buying up and exporting great Quantities from that Kingdom, on their own Accounts, to foreign Parts.
20. And provided an effectual Stop could be put to the Exportation of *Irish* Woolen Manufactures, and of *Irish* Wool to foreign Parts, we should conceive that it would be highly for the Benefit of *Great Britain*, freely and without Duties, to admit the Importation of their Yarn.
21. And in order to make this Benefit more extensive, we would beg Leave to submit to your Lordships Consideration, whether it may not be proper to open all Ports of *Ireland* and *England*, for the Exportation and Importation of *Irish* Wool and Yarn, but more particularly the Ports of *Galway* and *London*; for we are informed that great Quantities of the best Wool in *Ireland*, are produced within thirty Miles round that Town of *Galway*, which is above 100 Miles distant from any Sea Port now open for the Exportation of Wool from that Kingdom; so that the Land Carriage in *Ireland* creates an Addition of about six *per Cent.* upon the prime Cost of the Wool, before it comes to any of the Ports from whence it can be

^d See

(Ch. 87.

§. 17.

Note.)

11, 12 W.

III. c. 13.

See

(Ch. 127.)

§. 22.

P. S.

be sent to *England*, as the Law now stands; and in the same manner, the Charges of carrying a Pack of *Irish* Yarn from the Port of *Bristol* to *Colchester*, or *Norwich*, has been computed to be no less than 5 *per Cent.* * at a Medium, upon the prime Cost of the Yarn; and the Charge of carrying a Pack of *Irish* Wool between those Places, is computed at near 15 *per Cent.* upon the prime Cost of the Wool; which being impartially considered, we conceive it will appear unreasonable to your Lordships, that the Manufacturers in one Part of the Kingdom, should remain under the Necessity of working up the *Irish* Wool and Yarn, near 10 *per Cent.* dearer than others: A Difficulty that would be entirely removed, by opening the Port of *London*, which lies conveniently for supplying the Manufactures of *Essex*, and the adjacent Counties.

22. These are the principal Matters that have occurred to us upon this Enquiry; to which we would beg leave to add, that those Provisions as shall be approved of, and more particularly what relates to the Register Ships, may be extended to the Isles of *Man*, *Guernsey*, *Jersey*, *Alderney*, and *Sark*.

All which is humbly submitted to your Lordships great Wisdom.

<i>Whitehall,</i>	<i>Westmoreland,</i>	<i>M. Bladen,</i>
<i>Feb. 25,</i>	<i>P. Docminique,</i>	<i>Orl. Bridgeman,</i>
<i>1731--2.</i>	<i>T. Pelham,</i>	<i>Ar. Croft,</i>
	<i>Edw. Ashe,</i>	<i>James Brudenell.</i>

P. S. *An additional Act for the Encouragement of the Woolen Manufactures of this Kingdom, by the more effectual preventing the unlawful Exportation of the Woolen Manufactures of the Kingdom of Ireland, to foreign Parts* †. 5 *Geo. 2. c. 21.*

Extract

* There are vast Quantities of Yarn carried by Land, from *Leeds* in *Yorkshire* to *Norwich*. So that five *per Cent.* gained to the latter, in Carriage of *Irish* Yarn, would be just so much taken from the Yarn in *Yorkshire*; which must have been so much Loss between the *English* Wool Grower and Spinner; but their Interest is too seldom considered!

† By 10, 11 *Will. III. c. 10* †, certain Ships and † Ch. 89.

‡ Sloop stationed on the Coasts of *England* and *Ireland*, had † §. 7.

262 *Memoirs of Wool, &c.* Ch. 127.

Extract of a Report from the Commissioners of Trade, touching the Manufactures of the British Colonies, to the House of Commons. 1732.

A State of the Silk, Linen and Woolen Manufactures in the British Plantations.

23. We beg leave to acquaint this House, that, pursuant to an Order of the Committee of Council, this Board did on the 5th Day of *December* 1728, make a very particular Enquiry into the State of the Plantations at that Time, with respect to Silk, Linen, and Woolen Manufactures established there; and having then discoursed with many Persons who had either been Governors of some of the Colonies, or were by other Means well acquainted with their Circumstances, it appeared to this Board, and we did accordingly represent,

24. That in the Colonies of *New England, New York, Connecticut, Rhode Island, Pennsylvania*, and in the County of *Somerset* in *Maryland*¹, the People had fallen into the Manufacture of Woolen and Linen Cloth for the Use of their own Families; but we could not learn they had ever made any for Sale in those Colonies, except in a small *Indian Town* in *Pennsylvania*, where some *Palatines* had been lately settled.

¹ Ch. 120. §. 28. Note.

25. The Reason why these People had begun this Manufacture, were,

1. That the Product of those Colonies being chiefly Stock and Grain, the Estates of the Inhabitants depended wholly upon farming; and as this could not be carried on without a certain Quantity of SHEEP, their WOOL would be entirely lost, were not their Servants employed

¹ Orders to take and seize, &c. Ships, &c. exporting any Wool to foreign Parts, but were not authorized to seize such Ships, &c. as were exporting Woolen Manufacture from Ireland to foreign Parts. And therefore the Admiralty is empowered to appoint three Ships, and eight or more armed Sloops, to cruize on the Coasts of Great Britain and Ireland, with Power to seize Vessels having Woolen Manufactures on Board, from Ireland, for foreign Parts. And whereas by a Clause of a former Act¹, Mariners and Passengers were allowed to have Woolen Goods on Board, for their own Use, to the Value of 40 s. each; under Pretence of which Exemption, great Quantities have been exported. Therefore the said Clause is repealed.

¹ 11, 12 W. III. c. 13. See Ch. 87. §. 17.

employed at leisure Times of the Year, but chiefly during Winter, in manufacturing it for the Use of their Families. — That these Settlements had no Opportunities of a Market for Grain, and therefore as they did not raise more Corn than was sufficient for their own Use, they had the more Time to manufacture both Wool * and Flax for the Service of their Families, and seemed to be under a great Necessity of doing it.

26. Upon a farther Enquiry into this Matter, we do not find that those People had the same Temptation to go on with those Manufactures, during the Time that the Bounty on naval Stores subsisted. That the Height of Wages, and great Price of Labour, made it impracticable for the People there to manufacture Woollen Cloth at less than 50 *per Cent.* dearer than that which is exported from hence for Sale.

27. But several Alterations have happened since that Time; and we find Trades carried on, and Manufactures set up there, detrimental to the Trade, Navigation and Manufacture of *Great Britain*.

28. Colonel *Shute*, Governor of the *Massachusetts Bay*, informed us, that in some Parts of this Province, the Inhabitants worked up their WOOL and FLAX, and made an ordinary coarse Cloth for their own Use, but that the Merchants could afford what was imported, cheaper than what was made in that Country.

29. Colonel *Hart*, formerly Governor of *Maryland*, who lived many Years in the Neighbourhood of this Government (*Pennsylvania*) informs us, that their chief Trade lay in the Exportation of Provisions and Lumber; having no Manufactures established.

2. The Country People who used formerly to make most of their Cloathing out of their own WOOL, do not now make a third Part of what they wear.

30. Mr. *Belcher*, Governor of *New Hampshire*, informs us, that the Woollen Manufacture of that Province was much less than formerly, the common Lands on which the Sheep used to feed, being now divided into

R 4

parti-

* And a stronger Inducement to the depasturing of their Lands with Sheep, to the Increase of the Produce, Wool.

particular Properties; and their Exportation being naval Stores, Lumber †, Fish, &c.

31. Mr. *Rip Van Dam*, President of the Council of *New York*, acquaints us, there is yearly imported a very large Quantity of the Woollen Mnnufacture of this Kingdom, which they could not pay for, and should be reduced to the Necessity of making, themselves, if they were prohibited from receiving from the foreign Sugar Colonies, in Return for Provisions,——Wool †, &c.

32. Major *Gordon*, Deputy Governor of *Pennsylvania*, informs us, that they do not export any Woollen or Linen Manufactures; all they make (which are of a coarse Sort) being for the Use of themselves and Families.

33. By some Accounts we find, that the Produce of *Connecticut* is Timber, *English* Grain, Hemp, Flax, SHEEP, Cattle.

34. There are more Trades carried on, and Manufactures set up in the Provinces of the Continent of *America*,

† But *Query*, whether, reducing common Lands into Severalties, is any where, a Means of lessening the Number of Sheep, or however, the Quantity of Wool, from this and other Provinces? and whether Wool may not probably be exported hence, clandestinely, to the Streights, &c. in what is called the Lumber Trade?

† There is something very particular in this Account, which merits the Notice of an *English Wool Grower*. He must not export his Wool, nor wish to have it exported; because this, he is told, would be like selling Powder and Ball to an Enemy; for that Wool is the PECULIAR Growth of *England* and *Ireland*; of which peculiar Produce the like monopolish Advantage is to be made by the *English*, as by the *Dutch*, of their Spices.

And yet we find here, that not only the *British*, but foreign Colonies in *America*, produce Wool. And we are further told here, that a *British West Indian* Colony could not pay for the Woollen Manufacture imported to them from *Great Britain*, if they did not take Wool from the foreign Colonies, in Return for Provisions. And so much is intelligible.——But considering that the *British* Colonies are not permitted to export either Wool or WOOLEN Manufacture, being of the Product or Manufacture of any of the *English* Plantations, it is not easy to reconcile the Trade of *New York*, in the Wool of foreign Colonies, with a strict Observance of the Statute 10, 11 *Will. III. c. 10*^b.

rica, to the Northward of *Virginia*, prejudicial to the Trade and Manufactures of *Great Britain*, particularly in *New England*, than in any other of the *British Colonies*; which is not to be wondered at; for their Soil, Climate, and Produce, being pretty near the same with ours, they have no Staple Commodities of their own Growth, to exchange for our Manufactures, which puts them under greater Necessity, as well as greater Temptation, of providing themselves at home. To which may be added, in the Charter Governments, the little Dependance they have upon their Mother Country, and consequently the small Restraints they are under in any Matters detrimental to her Interest.

C H A P. CXXVIII.

The Interest of Scotland considered, with Regard to its Policy in employing the Poor, its Agriculture, Trade, Manufacture, &c.
Edinburgh 1733.

1. **E**VER since the Beginning of the Confusions in the Reign of *Charles I.* our Linen Manufactures have been upon the Decay; as also, our Manufactures of Silk Goods, fine broad Cloths, and several others of less Moment, which were introduced at a great Expence, and too long carried on with Loss to the Nation, have in a great Measure totally failed; 'till an Act of Parliament, *anno* 1727, for Encouragement more particularly of the Linen Manufacture, gave a new Turn in Favour of the same. It has done us infinite Good in many Respects. Our Linen Trade is in some Measure already retrieved. Page 5.
2. Every trading Country has some particular Branch of Business, which depends partly on some particular Product of their own for Manufacture, but more upon their Skill and Dexterity in making their Goods. Page 76.
3. Woolen Goods are the Staple Commodity of *England*; in which they have the natural Advantage of great Quantities Page 77.

266 *Memoirs of Wool, &c.* Ch. 128.

Quantities of very good Wool of their own. But this bears no Proportion to the Skill of their Workmen, their Diligence, and the great Stocks of particular Clothiers, &c.

4. The Wool of all the Growths of *Europe*, was for many Ages, bought up and manufactured by the Inhabitants of the *Netherlands*. The Woollen Trade was first set ¹on Foot in *England*, in the Reign of *Edw. III.* §. 16. but it made small Progress until the Reign of *Phil. II* of Page 81. *Spain*. Now, they not only manufacture their own Wool, but also the Wool of *Spain*, and the best Growths of other Countries, and, in great Measure, may justly be called the sole Masters of the Woollen Trade.

Page 83. 5. The People of the low Countries taught us to sort, wash, and dress Wool; to spin it, and weave Cloth, &c. But this was not pursued to any Purpose.

Page 101. 6. From *England* we are served with Broad Cloths of all Kinds, from the best *Spanish* Wool Superfines, to

Page 102. the lowest Price *Yorkshires*, with *Norwich* Goods of all Kinds, &c. The first Article we have, to answer all these Demands, consists of Product, namely, our black

Page 103. Cattle and Sheep, and some of our Wool, when the Woollen Trade in *England* is quick. This Article cannot well be increased, unless our low Grounds were inclosed, and more of them turned into Grass. Our chief Care then ought to be, to advance the Manufacture of those Goods, which we sell in *England*; or which comes to the same, to promote the Manufacture at home, of such as we now have from *England*.

Page 105. 7. At *Kilmarnock*, are made of our own Wool, low priced Serges. These are partly for home Consumption, and partly for the Markets of *Holland*. And by the Help of a little Care and Encouragement, burying Crapes; at least those of a low Price, might also be made there for home Consumpt. — At *Stirling*, and its Neighbourhood, large Quantities of Serges are made, and several other low priced Goods for Furniture; all for home Consumpt, and rather cheaper than such Goods can be purchased in *England*. This Business is much improv'd of late. At *Aberdeen*, and Countries adjacent, large Quantities of our own coarse tarred Wool are manufactured into Serges, called *Fingrams*, and knit Stockins of all Prices. Some of these Goods are consumed

sumed at home, some of them exported to *Holland*; and some of them sold at *London*, and from thence exported Page 106. to foreign Parts. At *Edinburgh*, fine Shalloons are made of our best Wool, for home Consumption, and cheaper than they can be had in *England*. At *Musleburgh*, there is a considerable Manufacture of low priced narrow Goods, for home Consumption, and Export to the Plantations.— At *Gallowshields*, are made a few coarse Kerfies. At *Kirkcudbright*, *Hawick*, *Monyghaff*, and other Places near the Wool Countries, several Packs of tarred Wool have been washed and cleaned, and some of it sorted and combed, spun and wrought up into Blankets, and other coarse Goods by private Hands for their own Use; all done by the Help of publick Encouragement, to advance the Price of Wool in those Parts, but as yet to little or no Purpose.

8. The Gentlemen who procured a publick Fund ^{Ch. 91.} for encouraging the Manufacture of our coarse Wool, ^{§. 8. Note.} seem to have been Strangers to the Business, when they adjected this Condition, to limit the Encouragement to those Counties where the Wool is produced; the Consumption of that Wool can only be made by the Encouragement of its Manufacture, in those Places already mentioned, where it now is, and where it has been carried on for many Ages; for in the Wool Countries there are not Hands for Manufacture. All that can be proposed there, is to clean and wash their Wool, and send it to the Market sorted; and in this they will save a great deal of Carriage.

9. One Branch of our Woolen Manufacture ought to be altered, and that is our Bed Blankets. We have always been used to furnish ourselves with these; but we spin them too fine, and make them after the manner of Page 108. Kerfies; they consume little Wool, and as they require much Manufacture, they become dear; and this is a Reason that of late, several have furnished themselves with *English* Blankets.

10. As for the Manufacture of broad Cloth, that consists of so many Parts, that we cannot carry it on without evident Loss. *First*, we have no such Thing as an Wool-Stapler * in the Country, which lays the Clothier Page 109. under

* A very slender Reason this, against cultivating the Woolen

under a Necessity to buy his Wool in the Fleece; and unless he works up all the Sorts himself (which no Clothier can do without great Loss) he must lose by the Sorts he does not use. The washing, cleaning, and drying Wool, by beating it on the Flecks, we understand pretty well; but we neither dye so well, nor so cheap as the *English* do; and we have but few Scriblers, who understand the close mixing of Wool on the Cards for Medleys. Our Women are all bred to spin Linen Yarn, and are not so fit to spin Woollen, especially carded Wool for Cloth. We understand the picking of Cloth, and the thickening of it pretty well; but we are not so adroit at the tasselling it on the dubbing Boards, and are at a Loss that we have no Tassels * of our own Growth fit for this Work, but are obliged to bring them from *England* in large Quantities to lye by us, as we have

Page 110. occasion to use them. The most curious and difficult Operation of the whole, is the cutting on the Shear Board, and finishing in the hot Press. We have no Shear-men of our own, that understand their Business to Perfection, and as few Press-men; and must bring our Press Papers from *England*; and the Profits of the whole Manufacture depend upon the close and equal cutting from End to End, and upon proper and clean Papers for every Staple of Cloth, and a just Degree of Heat and Pressure in the hot Press, neither too much, nor too little of either.

11. The *English* have been long Masters of the Woollen Trade; their Clothiers and Piece-buyers are Men of Stocks, able to carry it on; whereas we have no Stocks

Page 111. equal to so great an Undertaking. We must also be at the Expence of Workmen from *England* for several Branches, at higher Wages than they get at home; and we

Woolen Manufacture in *Scotland*; nor are those which follow, Impediments of any more considerable Force¹. But this Author seems to have been wholly immersed in the *Linen Trade* of that Kingdom; consequently, like too many others, will rather argue weakly, than divest himself of Partiality to his own more immediate Interest.

* *Teazel*, *Carduus Fullonum*, or the *Fullers Thistle*, a Kind of Plant much used by the Fullers, Cloth Workers, and Stockin Weavers, to card or draw out the Wool or Nap from the Ground. (See *Chambers's Dictionary*.)

¹ Ch. 71. ² Ch. 173. ³ 3.

we cannot expect to get the best Workmen. These and many other Difficulties hinted at, not easily to be conquered, render it absolutely impossible for us to succeed in the Woolen Trade, at least, in Broad Cloth, Druggets, fine Kerfies, and the Woolen Goods of *Norwich*; nor is this any Loss to us, since we have a Staple Manufacture of our own; at least, may have the Linen, in which the *English* deal not. They are too wise to encourage any Manufacture in the weaving Way, that might interfere in the great Staple, the Woolen. And we should learn of them to discourage every Trade that may interfere with, or hinder the Progress of our only Staple.

12. We may then reasonably suppose, on the lowest Computation, that we can buy (and from daily Experience we know it to be so) those Woolen Goods 10 and 15 *per Cent.* cheaper in *England* than we can make them at home; and if we can make Linen Cloth, and sell it in *England* from 5 to 10 *per Cent* Profit, and purchase in Exchange for it, Woolen Goods 10 and 15 *per Cent.* cheaper than we can make them at home, then are we Gainers by this Trade, from 15 to 20 *per Cent*; and of Page 112. Consequence just so many Hands as are employed in the Woolen, who might be employed in the Linnen, just so much does the Country lose by their Labour.

13. What puts this Position (of itself sufficiently evident) beyond all Question, was the Experiment we made of a Manufactory of Broad Cloths at *New Mills* ^a near *Haddington*, before the Union. As good Superfines were there made, as ever were made in *England*; but by reason of the Disadvantages we laboured under in this Trade, already mentioned, the Dealer paid for them 25 *per Cent.* more than he could have bought them for in *England*. As this Trade was carried on by a Company, no doubt their Loss was greater than if it had been carried on by private Hands; but if 10 *per Cent* is allowed for Management, and that is a great deal more than any Business can bear, the Trade was still unprofitable, though it had been carried on by private Hands, and a great Loss to the Country. *English* made Cloths were contraband ^a; ^a Ch. 71. but as all the Cloths we could make ourselves, bore no ^a §. 12. Note. Proportion to our Consumption, great Quantities of *English* Cloths were clandestinely imported; for the great Profits

Profits the Dealers made then by them, was sufficient to answer the Risk of Confiscation, if taken.

Page 118. 14. Thus we see plainly how far our Woolen Manufacture may and ought to be encouraged, and what Branches of it ought to be given up as a Loss to the Country. All our other home-made Goods are mostly for home Consumpt, and are all made in *England*, fully better, and sold cheaper than here; which must be owing to the superior Skill and Diligence of their Tradesmen; since living is easier here than in most Places of *England*.

Page 128, 129. 15. Linen is a Commodity of universal Use. The Linen Trade of *Europe* is at this Time in the Hands of the *Russians*, *Germans*, &c. The Balance of Trade betwixt *England*, and all those foreign Linen Countries, is

Page 130. now against *England*, by Reason of high Duties imposed by them on *English* Woolen Goods, and other Incumbrances, which, in some of those Parts, is near equal to

Page 142. a Prohibition. This State of our Trade calls loudly upon us to improve and extend the Manufacture of home-

Page 143. made Linen. At *Darlington* in *Yorkshire*, some Linen is made; but it lies too near *Leeds* and other clothing Towns. In *Lancashire*, the Linen Trade may safely be carried on; it interferes not with the Cotton, but is the Warp of all their Fustians, and several other Cotton Goods. In short, the Linen Manufacture is of the next

Page 144. Consequence to that of Woolen; it may employ near as many Hands, and equally deserves the same Care, Countenance, and Encouragement. The Act of Parliament, made in 1727, hath done a great deal, but we still want further Assistance from the Publick, in order to its being carried to its full Extent and Perfection.

C H A P. CXXIX.

An Argument upon the Woolen Manufacture of Great Britain, plainly demonstrating, that Ireland must speedily be employed therein, as the only Means to recover its Decay, and to prevent its Ruin. Dedicated to Robert Willimot, Esq;,, Chairman of the Committee for the Woolen Manufacture, 1735.

1. **T**O forbid the Export of any Commodity to another Country, is to command it to be sold at your own Price, to yourselves, which is nothing better than downright Robbery *. *England* has never exercised her Power over *Ireland*, but she has suffered for it. The whole World see it in two Instances. 1. The Act to prohibit *Irish* Cattle. 2. The Destruction of the Woolen Manufacture of that Kingdom. The first is generally now, allowed to be destructive. The second begins by its fatal Consequences somewhat to open the Eyes of Men. The Consequences of it were, 1. The Expulsion of 30,000 Manufacturers from that Country. 2. Their Retreat into foreign Countries. 3. The Establishment thereupon of the Woolen Manufacture in almost all Parts of *Europe*. 4. The Exportation of *English* and *Irish* Wool. 5. The gradual and notorious Decay of our Trade from that very Hour †.

2. From

* Apply this to the Case, of prohibiting absolutely the Exportation of Wool from England.

† Here are five Sentences, every one of which contains more or less of Untruth.

In the Year 1697, (the Year but one, before the Act complained of) the total Value of Woolen Manufactures exported from *Ireland*, was 23,614 *l.* 9 *s.* 6 *d.* °; accounting ° Ch. 126. the Wool whereof to be one fourth of that Sum, viz. about *£*. 9. 6000 *l.* the Value of the Labour was about 18,000 *l.* But could 18,000 *l.* support 30,000 Manufacturers, for a Year? Supposing therefore (which is not credible) that every individual Manufacturer employed in *Ireland*, in making Drapery

Page 11. 2. From these Consequences we ought to observe, that the Decay of our Trade does not arise from the Exportation of *Irish* Wool. That were to make an Effect a Cause. To ascribe the Misfortune of the Retreat of Manufacturers from *Ireland*, and the Establishment of foreign Manufactures, as a Cause, would be equally wrong. These are but the Effects of one fatal Cause, the vain Expectation of engrossing the Woolen Manufacture to ourselves; narrow Principles, which in proving too much, prove nothing but their own Absurdity.

Page 14. 3. Those, whose Estates rise from Wool; those who manufacture Wool, imagine, that by admitting *Ireland* to a Share in the Woolen Manufacture, their Estates must fall, and also the Price of Labour. But their *Estates* * are now raised too high, to suffer any Commerce to thrive, or to continue in our Favour, and their
Labour

pery, in the Year 1697, to the Value aforesaid, had left the Kingdom; yet is N^o. 1. a great Exaggeration, and consequently N^o. 2. is the same. N^o. 3. is no less erroneous, in supposing the Woolen Manufacture to have been a new Thing at this Time, in almost any Part of *Europe*. N^o. 4. is egregiously out, in dating from hence only the Exportation of *English* and *Irish* Wool. And N^o. 5. which supposes a Decay of the *English* Trade, is an equal Falsehood; since besides an Increase in *England* of all other Manufacture and Trade, even the Woolen Exportations from *England* have maintained their Ground, nay advanced, from that Time.

* As if the Price of Land and Labour was arbitrary, not subject to the common Market, and governed by the general State of the Commerce of the Nation. Or as if there was any real National Interest distinct from that of the main Body of the People, the Landholders and Labourers; or as if that could be for *their* Interest, which is not to their Benefit; or that their Benefit consisted in something different from their Profit, viz. the Price of their Land and Labour respectively. But thus nothing is too much, no Gain sufficient to satisfy the Luxury or Avarice of certain particular selfish Wholesale Dealers. I say their Luxury or their Avarice; for whose Advantage does this Sort of Argument consult, besides that of their own dear selves? 'Commerce' (say they) is beneficial to the Nation; it brings Money into 'the Kingdom.' And they say true. But then, upon the Terms of this Writer; who besides themselves are to partake

Labour is too dear. If they will have Commerce then, they must suffer their *Estates to fall*, their *Labour to lower its Price*.

4. Can we keep our Manufacture as we are? If we Page 164
can, why so much Noise and Clamour upon the Subject? why such Complaints of Manufacturers? Applications to Parliament, and Committees appointed to consider these Complaints and Applications? Why Bills brought in, for many Years together, to secure it? If we cannot keep our Manufactures, as we are, how would the Gain of the *Irish* be out of the Manufacture of *England*? The Gain of the *Irish* must be out of the Page 171
Woolen Manufacture of those Countries which will succeed us in it. And who will succeed us in it? or rather who has already got it from us? *France* in the principal Part. The Gain of the *Irish* then, in the Woolen Manufacture, must be a Gain upon the Manufacture of *France*. The *Irish* can under-sell the *French* in that Manufacture; and if they were allowed a full Liberty of trading in their own Manufacture, they would export *no raw Wool* or *Woolen Yarn*; and without *Wool*, or *Woolen Yarn* of their *Growth*, the foreign Manufacturies, our Rivals, *cannot exist*. Is it doubted that the *Irish* *Wool* and *Yarn* be necessary to the Manufactures of Page 19:
France? We are told by all that are conversant ^p in this ^p Ch. 69.
Business, *that they cannot carry on their Trade without* §. 1.
it.

5. Moreover, in whatever Branches of Manufacture Page 214
the *Irish* or *English* *Wool* is employed in *France*, it works up *twice as much* of the *French* *Wool*. Thus, one thousand Stone of *Irish* or *English* *Wool*, produces three thousand Stones of *French* *Manufactures*. If the *Irish* therefore were now allowed to work up all their *Wool*, they could but manufacture one third of that Quantity.
This

take of this Benefit? Not, it seems, the Landholders, nor the Labourers, who (excepting the Merchants) are the *whole Nation*. Yes! they will tell you, and very truly, the Benefits of Commerce are diffusive, and passing through the Hands of the Labourers, center at last in the *Landed Interest*. But then must it not be, if at all, in the Shape of the *same* or *more*, not of *less Rent*, and *less Wages*?

This is the only Quantity, or only Kind of Cloth * in France, for Exportation, and the greatest Part of it is employed in Exportation. All the CLOTH of France, for Exportation, is thus capable of being destroyed; yet the *Irish* can gain but one third of that Exportation. The Demand for Cloth must continue the same: There must then remain two Thirds of that Demand unsatisfied. Who can satisfy this Demand? Foreigners cannot, from the Nature of their Wool. The *Irish* cannot, because they have not Quantity sufficient. The *English* therefore must. Thus will the *English* plainly benefit as much again by opening the *Irish* Commerce, as the *Irish* can do themselves; for of the Ruins of the *French* Manufacture, two Thirds must necessarily fall into our † Lap.

* Here observe the Word CLOTH. We shall soon find another † Person strongly vouching the same marvellous Qualities in *English* and *Irish* Wool, when mixed with that of France, in all other Manufacture, except CLOTH.

† This Gentleman would at last persuade us, that he is no *Irish* Man. And perhaps he was not, considering what is said (Chap. 127. §. 19.) of some *British* Merchants.

Be that as it will, his Arguments are the main Object of Attention. And first, we are to understand from him, that nothing less than a Liberty to manufacture their own Wool, and to export that Woolen Manufacture directly to foreign Parts, will so far content the People of *Ireland*, as to restrain them from exporting Wool clandestinely and illegally. And so far he is in the right. But I will go farther, and say, that even that Liberty will not effectually restrain the *Irish* in this Case. It will, it's true, put them upon the same Foot with *England*; when they having the like Temptation, will (some of them) act just as some Persons in *England* do. Where the Situation is convenient for the Purpose, an illicit Trade will be carried on, for Gain; for as Dr. *Swift* said, 'Silver and Gold was neither *Whig* nor *Tory*;' so neither is it *English* or *Irish*.

But the *Irish*, according to this Writer, are to be let into the foreign Woolen Trade, because they can under-sell the *French*. Well! and in what Place are the *English* to be then, since the *French* (it's said) can under-sell them? Oh! says he, if the *Irish* keep their Wool at home, they will get the selling of *their own* Wool in Manufacture, which used to go out raw; and the *English* will gain a *Vent extraordinary*, viz. for twice the Quantity of Woolen Goods, which

Lap. I conclude with these Sentiments, though they appear contrary to the Judgment of the Nation. 1. A Nation will not grow Poor by an Increase of Money. 2. A Nation will not grow rich, by refusing to employ any of her Subjects. 3. A Nation will never thrive, by Means, which have brought her to Ruin. 4. A Nation may attempt Impossibilities, but will never succeed.

C H A P. CXXX.

The Act commonly called, The Manchester Act, 1735—6.

1. *AN Act* *, to amend an Act passed in the seventh Year of the Reign of his late Majesty King Geo. I. §. 7. Ch. 118. intitled an Act to preserve and encourage the Woollen and Silk

which the Increase of the Manufacture in Ireland shall by that Means amount to. How so? Why, because *Irish* or *English* Wool in France, works up twice its Quantity of *French* Wool; and is, in that Respect, so very necessary to the French, that they cannot carry on their Manufactures even of their own Wool, without it. Thus does the Utility, to England, of what this Writer contends for, depend altogether upon the Truth of that which we have already been told, and which we shall see most clearly hereafter, is certainly false, viz. That the French cannot carry on their Woollen Trade without English or Irish Wool. Ch. 105. §. 12, 14.

* ' This Act recites that ' whereas great Quantities of ' Stuffs, made of Linen Yarn and Cotton Wool, have for ' several Years past, been manufactured, and have been ' printed and painted within this Kingdom of Great Britain; and the said Manufactures, so printed and painted, ' are a Branch of the ancient Fustian Manufacture of this ' Kingdom; and have been, and are now used and worn in ' Apparel and Furniture. And whereas some Doubt hath ' arisen, whether the Use and wearing of the said Stuffs, ' when the same are so printed and painted, be prohibited ' by the said recited Act; whereby the said Manufacture ' is discouraged, and may be utterly lost, and great Numbers of his Majesty's Subjects and their Families, whose ' Live-

Silk Manufactures of this Kingdom, and for more effectually employing the Poor, by prohibiting the Use and Wear of

‘Livelihood intirely depends thereupon, may be ruined, and the Poor greatly increased, if not timely prevented.

‘Therefore *enacts*, that nothing in the said recited Act shall extend, or be construed to prohibit the wearing or using, &c. any Sort of Stuff made of Linen Yarn and Cotton Wool, manufactured and printed or painted with any Colour or Colours, within the Kingdom of Great Britain; provided that the Warp thereof be entirely Linen Yarn.’

N. B. *This is what goes under the Name of the Manchester Act. The Act, thereby said to be amended, commonly called the Callico Act (7 Geo. c. 7.) was made at the Instance of all the Silk and Woolen Manufacturers in the Kingdom; and was chiefly solicited by the Citizens of Norwich. And the Landed Interest, under the Notion of Benefit to the Grower, as well as to the Manufacturer of Wool, came heartily into it.*——But it is since said, ‘that this [Callico

‘*Serious Considerations on the several high Duties, &c.* 1743. pag. 23.

‘*Act*] has done a World of Harm to some of the Manufactures of England, and particularly to those of the City of Norwich, for whose Benefit it was chiefly intended; and that the People of that City are now sensible of it themselves. For that the prohibiting of them here, made them so very plentiful in foreign Markets, where there used to be a Demand for Norwich Stuffs, that when the People abroad found they could purchase Callicoes for a small Matter more than Norwich Stuffs, they preferred the former, as the neater Apparel, and upon the whole, cheapest.’

*In this, there is, no Doubt, some Truth; and the Reason is very apparent. For tho’ the Act prohibited the Use of Callicoes in Great Britain, for Apparel or Furniture; yet were they not prohibited in Ireland or in the British Plantations. Again, tho’ all Stuffs made of, or mixed with Cotton, had been prohibited, in like Manner, as Callicoes, yet was there an Exception made as to Fustians. And this present Act (9 Geo. 2. c. 4.) says, that the Manufacturers at Manchester, under the Cover of that Exception, had contrived to furnish Great Britain, with a Manufacture of Thread and Cotton mixed, which supplied in a great Measure, the Place of Callicoes. And now, when this Manufacture at Manchester, was grown to a very considerable Pitch, and the People there, were become so rich and numerous by it, as for several Years successively (we are told) to have expended 30,000*l.* per Ann. in new Buildings; the Silk, and Woolen Manufacturers*

‘*See* Ch. 118. §. 7. Note.

‘Ch. 139. §. 11.

of

of all printed, painted, stained, or dyed Callicoes (except as is therein excepted) so far as relates to Goods made of Linen

of the Kingdom began to take Umbrage at the same. But by this Time, the Number of these Manufacturers at Manchester, of Cotton and Linen mixed, was too great, and their Interest too considerable, to be suppressed: On the contrary, we find they had Influence sufficient to get this succedaneous Manufacture (concerning the Legality of wearing which, in Apparel or Furniture, some Doubts had justly arisen) established by this Law (9 Geo. 2. c. 4.) So that these Cottons are not only become a common Wear and Use in both, as, before the Year 1720, Callicoe was, but there is so much Likeness between the latter, and such printed and painted Cottons, that Callicoes, not only manufactured, but painted in India, are become no very uncommon Wear also in Great Britain. And thus the Callicoe Act of 1720, is in some Measure superseded, or rather defeated, as also, in respect of Chints, the Act 11, 12 Will. III. c. 10. And tho' on this Account, we sometimes find the Spittlefields Weavers expressing a Degree of Uneasiness, yet most of all is the Interest of the BRITISH WOOL GROWER affected by it. For tho' there may be Employment for an equal Number of Hands, in making Manchester Cottons for home Consumption and Exportation, as if those Goods were wrought from WOOL; and tho' other Places besides Manchester, may fall into the like Cotton Manufactures, yet cannot it be expected that there should be an equal, either Consumption at home, or Exportation abroad, of British Woollen Manufactures, as if Things had been otherwise. The Manufactures of Stuffs from British Wool, have undoubtedly lost some Markets abroad, as the Author of serious Considerations, &c. says they have done; and this, without gaining one at home, tho' that was an Acquisition principally intended by the Callicoe Act; but, first evaded by an Exception therein, for Fustians; and that Evasion, since confirmed by this, which is called the Manchester Act. The Consequences of this Act were so well foreseen by the People of Norwich, that very soon after the passing thereof, a Committee of Trade there, came to the following Resolution, viz. ' Experiment having been made by some of the principal Woollen Manufacturers of this City, of Cotton Yarn spun here; it is very probable, if they proceed on that Manufacture, that this City will be as famous for Cotton, as it is for Worsted Stuffs. Resolved therefore, that a Subscription be made for raising a Sum of Money, to be given to such Persons as shall produce to the Committee of Trade, at the Guild-Hall in this City, on Midsummer Day next, the best Piece of Stuff, 20 Yards

S 3

' long,

Linen Yarn and Cotton Wool manufactured in Great Britain. 9. Geo. 2. c. 4.

C H A P. CXXXI.

The Golden Fleece; Or the Trade, Interest, and well Being of Great Britain considered; with Remarks on the Rise, Progress, and present Decay of our Woolen Manufactures, &c.

Page 3. 1. **O**UR native Merchandize consists in Wool, Butter, Hides, Tallow, Timber, Lead, and Iron, And if our worthy Ancestors would not suffer the first and best of these (the Wool) to be carried out in the Infancy

‘ long, and one broad, weaved of Cotton Wool and Linen Yarn, within this City—And to encourage Workmen to excel in weaving Cottons, Stuffs—Resolved that a Guinea be given to the Journeyman or Person who shall weave the Piece, so judged the best as aforesaid.’ (G. M. 1736.)

What ensued upon this Resolution, I know not; but undoubtedly the Manufacture of Cottons, is, ceteris paribus, alike practicable in every Part of Great Britain; and it is further certain, that this Cotton Manufacture not only does at present, but that it will yet more, rival the British Woolen Manufacture for home Consumption. And whatever good Reasons may be assigned, in regard to the East India Trade, &c. first, for permitting Callicoes in the British Plantations, and in Ireland; secondly, for suffering, nay encouraging the Manufacture of Cotton and Thread, at Manchester and elsewhere, as a home Manufacture: Yet, how all this, in Equity and good Sense, can consist with prohibiting absolutely the Exportation of British Wool, I am utterly at a Loss to conceive; especially, considering how Europe and other Parts of the World at large, are circumstanced in regard to Wool—that tho’ we do abound therewith, yet is it very far from being a Produce so peculiar to England and Ireland, as several Writers of this Kingdom have successively represented it to be.

fancy of its Manufacture; how much stronger are the Reasons now for keeping it at home, when we are thus improved in it, and by being Masters of the Seas, have it in our Power, from a *peculiar Growth of WOOL* (which all other Nations stand in need of) to be the ONLY Sellers of it to Foreigners.

2. It would be endless to recite the many Laws made at different Times by our Ancestors, to prevent the unlawful * Exportation of *British and Irish Wool* to foreign Parts. The Rise of our *Woolen Manufactures* took their Date from the Reign of the renowned *Queen Elizabeth*, by settling the *Walloons* and *Flanderkins* in several Clothing Countries and Boroughs in *England*. Page 4.

3. Upon the Improvement of our *Woolen Manufactures*, *Fullers Earth* was found very useful, which occasioned several Laws to prevent the Exportation of that also, not only to foreign Nations, but to *Ireland*. Soon after our *Woolen Manufactures* came to Perfection, great Quantities were sent to *Turkey, Spain, Portugal*, and many other foreign Nations; and *Great Britain* tasting the Sweets of this Trade, several additional Laws were made, to prevent the Exportation of *Wool and Fullers Earth*.

4. The Customs, Laws, Practices, and Exigences of former Ages, are standing Proofs of this Truth, that the Exportation of all Commodities prejudicial to our home Manufactures, have been constantly forbid by the Legislature; and our Ancestors, from the earliest Times, were always so sensible of the many ill Consequences that attended the illegal Exportation of *Wool*, from the several Coasts of *Great Britain and Ireland*, that the Laws before-mentioned were by them purposely made to keep our *Wool at home*. They wisely foresaw, how fatal and destructive the exporting unwrought *Wool* might prove to these Kingdoms, if our Neighbours, by our Help, should set up *Woolen Manufactories*, and by living more frugally than the *English*, and having Labour and Provisions cheaper, could supply not only themselves, and other remote Page 5.

* Here note, he does not say, to prevent absolutely (which would have been false) but to prevent the unlawful, &c. which in this Place, is Nonsense, or equivocal.

remote Nations with Woolen Goods at a lower Price; which WITHOUT OUR WOOL, MUST have been purchased of us at OUR OWN PRICE.

5. The great Decay of our Woolen Manufactories is, beyond Dispute, owing to the illegal Exportation of *British* and *Irish* Wool, and Woolen Goods thoroughly manufactured in *Ireland*, to foreign Parts. Foreign Wool, for the most Part, is so coarse and hairy, that it cannot make several Assortments of *British* or *Irish* Wool. The Wool of *Spain* is so exceeding fine and short, that it cannot be mixed with the coarse, harsh Wool of foreign Growth; nor can they be manufactured together, without the Wool of *Great Britain* and *Ireland*. These are Facts so well known to the Manufacturers, that they petitioned the Parliament from all the Clothing Counties and Boroughs in *England*, Anno 1731, and every Year since, complaining of the illegal Exportation before-mentioned. The Manufacturers are the first that feel the Effects of a decaying Trade, and being not only an useful, but necessary People to the State, seem therefore entitled to all reasonable Protection and Encouragement.

* Ch. 41.
§. 4.

Page 6.

Page 7.

6. Upon a moderate Computation, one Pack of Wool made into Broad Cloth will give full Employment, for one Week, to 58 Persons, who will earn 19*l.* 8*s.* 0*d.* One Pack of the long combing Wool of *Lincolnshire*, &c. made into fine Stuffs, &c. for the *Spanish* and *Portugal* Trades, will give Employment, for one Week, to 158 Persons, who will earn — 33*l.* 12*s.* 0*d.* One Pack made into Stockins for the *Spanish* or *Portugal*, or any other Trade, will give full Employment for one Week, to 150 Persons, who will earn 55*l.* 00*s.* 0*d.* Thus 366 Persons, on 3 Packs of Wool, will earn 108*l.* 00*s.* 0*d.* in a Week.

Page 8.

7. By the aforesaid Computation, it must follow, that as often as 50,000 Packs of Wool are clandestinely exported, so often will *Great Britain* lose 1,800,000*l.* And so often will the Number of Persons, yearly deprived of Employment, be 117,353. Besides it is a received Opinion, that 300,000 Packs of Wool are ship'd yearly to foreign Nations, from the several Coasts of *Great Britain* and *Ireland*, through Neglect and Connivance. But if we suppose it were but half that Quantity, it must follow

follow by the said Computation, that *Great Britain* will lose yearly 5,400,000 *l.* And also the Number of Manufacturers yearly deprived of Employment, will be 352,059, besides the Diminution of the Merchants Profits, and the Hurt done to our Navigation; and although the Quantity may be more or less, yet it will bear the same Proportion, touching Profit or Loss to the Nation.

8. Let us consider another great Damage done to this Nation by suffering this illegal Exportation. One Pack of *British* or *Irish* Wool will work up two, besides itself, of the coarse harsh Wool of foreign Growth, which otherwise would be USELESS, and lye on their Hands, in respect to their Trade with *Turkey, Spain, Portugal,* and other foreign Parts. It may, perhaps, seem a Paradox to some People, till rightly understood *, *that the more unwrought Wool we suffer to be exported, the MORE † we shall be overstocked with it at home †.*

9. If

* 'Till rightly proved.

† This Paradox reminds me of what I remember to have seen, as an Argument against Inclosures (published in the Reign of *Edw. VI.*) viz. *The more Sheep; the dearer the Wool.*

† For Example, suppose 150,000 Packs of Wool (being but half the Quantity generally thought to be shipp'd off to Foreigners, from the several Coasts of *Great Britain* and *Ireland*) should be yearly exported unwrought; these added to 300,000 Packs of foreign Wool, produce a Manufacture of 450,000 Packs; if then 150,000 Packs were kept at home, *Turkey, Spain, Portugal,* and other foreign Countries, would want from *Great Britain* the Manufacture of 450,000 Packs, in the room of the like Quantity furnished by neighbouring Nations, who in this Case, could have NONE of THESE manufactured Goods to send to foreign Markets; therefore, as the Demand for Goods in foreign Parts would continue to be the same (the Question being, not what is the Quantity demanded or consumed, which is certain, but who shall furnish that Quantity) AS MUCH less as Foreigners are enabled to work up (by the Assistance of *British* or *Irish* Wool) SO MUCH MORE must be manufactured by *Great Britain*; and consequently the first Year a Law were made, to put an effectual Stop to the unlawful Exportation of *British* and *Irish* Wool, the Quantity of Woollen Goods for foreign Trade,

9. If the Landed Gentlemen of *Great Britain* were coolly to consider, how much it is their Interest to restrain the *Wool of Great Britain and Ireland* from being sold to Foreigners, they could never be prevailed upon to lend a helping Hand to prohibit the Importation of *Irish Wool, Worsted, or Yarn*; for if *Ireland* is overstocked with a Commodity, which we will not allow them to bring to *Great Britain*, we put them under a Necessity to look out elsewhere for a Market; the Consequences whereof we have experienced too long, and too much to our Cost; for by taking their *Wool, Worsted, and Yarn*, we should then engross the WHOLE *Woolen Trade* to OURSELVES, without a POSSIBILITY of being rivalled, and have it in our Power (as the *Hollanders do by their Spices* *) to fix OUR OWN PRICE.
- Ch. 96. 10. While *Great Britain* is so loaded with Debt, and oppressed with Taxes, no Manufactures can possibly flourish, except that of OUR WOOL; and had not Providence been more careful of us than we deserve, in bestowing A PECULIAR GROWTH OF WOOL (of which ALL OTHER NATIONS stand in Need) it would probably be out of the Power of human Understanding, to remedy the ruined Condition our Trade is in, which can no Way be recovered, but by keeping our *Wool at home*. It is to be noted, that every Pack of Wool manufactured in *Ireland*, over and above their home Consumption, is almost the same * Loss to *Great Britain*, as if manufactured in foreign Countries, and contrary to many Laws in Force. Therefore it might be proper his Majesty should be addressed, to order proper Instructions to be given to the Lord Lieutenant of *Ireland*, for Prevention;

* Trade, would be so much lessened, as is at this Time work'd up in *France* and other foreign Parts, which would naturally increase the Demand, more than double it is at present, from *Great Britain*, and by keeping OUR WOOL at home, they could ONLY be supplied from HENCE; and by the same Rule, our *Woolen Goods* must increase in their Value, in Proportion to the Demand for them; for where the WOOL is, there must be the Manufacturers, and there the Demand for the several Assortments proper for each Country.

* How does this agree with what was said above? (See §. 8.)

Ch. 131. *Memoirs of Wool, &c.* 283

tion; and in Return, to allow the Importation of *Irish Wool, Worsted and Yarn*, into *Great Britain* free of all Duty. This by some, may be thought to hurt the Poor of our own Country, who do not consider we shall have Occasion for *many Thousand Hands* in every Branch of our Manufactures; and for a much greater Quantity of Wool than at present, *when we come to engross the whole Woollen Trade to ourselves* [in Consequence of the Scheme following, viz. by]

11. Either a separate and distinct Commission for registering Wool both in *Great Britain* and *Ireland*, or, the Officers now employed on *Leather, Soap, Candles, &c.* to be appointed to this Work, and that Duty taken off from those Articles; and in Lieu thereof, a small one laid upon Wool. *A Scheme, or Heads of a Bill to prevent the illegal Exportation of British and Irish Wool, &c.*

12. Instead of three Men of War and eight Sloops stationed on the Coasts of *Ireland*, as in *Anno 1732*, twenty-four Register Ships or Sloops of different Burthens; they, and no other Vessels, to bring the raw Wool and Yarn from *Ireland*, and carry it Coast Ways in *England*, and to carry Wool to *Guernsey, Jersey, &c.*

13. Staple Towns in *Ireland* to receive and lodge the Wool, Worsted, and Yarn of *Ireland* convenient for the Register Ships.

		I.
N. B. Total Charge of the Register Ships	} 23,920	
annually,		
Of the three Men of War and eight Sloops	} 53,560	Page 21;
employed at this Time on the Coasts of		
<i>Ireland</i> ,		
The latter exceeding the former,	29,640	

The Sums wanted in Lieu of those raised on	} 497,347	Page 24;
Leather, Soap, Candles, &c. are		
In <i>Great Britain</i> is supposed to be Packs of Wool	500,000	
In <i>Ireland</i>	300,000	

Allow for home Use in *Ireland* 100,000

Then there will remain to be wrought up in

Great Britain 700,000 Packs, but say 600,000
 This, at a Medium of 1 d. per lb. will be £ 600,000
 Let the Duty be $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per lib. Weight, on all Wool grown in *Great Britain*, of the coarser Sort, Also one Penny per

per lb. on the second Sort ; and one' 1 d. $\frac{1}{2}$ on the finest and best *.

C H A P. CXXXII.

The sinking State of the Woolen Exportation Trade, humbly represented by the British Woolen Manufacturers, to the Members of Parliament, 1737.

May it please your Honours.

Page 3.

OBSERVING in the printed Votes, towards the latter End of the last Sessions, without any Petition from the Traders, a Committee of the whole House, to prepare Heads of a Bill, to prevent the Exportation of Wool unmanufactured ; and that giving us Hopes, that you will early this Sessions reassume a Consideration of such Importance. : We your humble Petitioners, British Woolen Manufacturers, in Behalf of ourselves and Brethren throughout the Kingdom, beg leave to represent the Loss, both to the Landed and Trading Interest, and to the King's Revenue, by the Wool exported out of both

* As this Writer only repeats the same false History, which has been already noted in others ; offering no new Argument ; but, upon the same Foot of Calculation with many that have gone before him, exceeds them in his Reckonings : As this Tract is but a Series of Romance and Extravagance (in which, nevertheless, we shall find others going still greater Lengths) so I think it needless to make any particular Remarks in this Place ; and therefore shall leave the Reader to form his Judgment of this Production, *The Golden Fleece* (in Truth, a *Golden Dream*) by what has gone before, and that which follows, particularly from the *Dictionnaire Universel du Commerce*.

* Ch. 151.
&c.

N. B. This same Tract, *The Golden Fleece*, which tho' without a Date, seems to have been first published Anno 1736, has since, in Substance, been re-published Anno 1745---6, under the Title of *The Danger of Great Britain and Ireland becoming Provinces of France, &c.* ; but without any Correction of the Author's Sentiments, historically speaking ; without bringing Things nearer to the Standard of Truth.

both Kingdoms unmanufactured, and Woolen Goods also exported out of *Ireland*, to foreign Parts; which prevented, would be to this Kingdom a much greater Fountain of Riches than ever the Gold and Silver Mines of the *Indies* were, or ever will be to Old and New *Spain* together.

2. 'Tis Fact, that most Countries have Wool, and some very valuable; but to none in a happy Climate hath God been so indulgent, as to *Great Britain* and *Ireland*; their Wool mostly is in its native Goodness adapted for making all Sorts of neat Woolen Goods; the Wool in other Countries being either, if fine, very short, or, if a good Staple, harsh, brittle, or coarse; they cannot make Quantities of tolerable neat Goods, without *British* or *Irish* to mix with it. Which evinceth, that keeping ours and the *Irish* Wool at home, for our own manufacturing, would at once secure the Demand of THE WHOLE WORLD on us for neat Woolen Goods, as the Dutch have for their Spices.

3. Your Honours are fully apprized even by your Page 43 Tenants *, that the Effects of a declining Trade are now generally felt; and no general Cause can be ascribed, but the great decay of our Woolen Exportation Trade; and that evidently owing to the *British* and *Irish* Wool exported.

4. Those

* It was true, that at this Time, Wool was excessively cheap ^d. But it was egregiously false, to say that the same ^d See was owing to a Decay of the *Woolen Exportation Trade*. Ch. 127. For in this very Year, viz. from *Christmas* 1737, to *£*. 8, 40. *Christmas* 1738, the *English* Exports of Woolen Goods amounted to 4,158,643 *l*. 17 *s*. which is above a Million more than in 1699, which was then accounted an extraordinary Year; above twice as much as they had been estimated at, upon an Average, before the Year 1700, and full one fourth more than they had ordinarily amounted to before the Year 1720; so far as appears by any Custom-House Accounts which have occurred. Nevertheless, in Regard to the low Price of Wool at this Period* (1737) I remember ^e See a certain honourable Person conspicuous in the Woolen Ch. 176. Trade, to have spoke of the same, as a Calamity; whereas P. 8. I rather esteem it to have been, in some Degree, the Effect of an Abuse and monopolish Oppression on the Wool Grower, and the Landed Interest in general.

Page 5.
 * See
 Ch. 105.

4. Those who are Agents for *France*, in this Kingdom, would persuade us that *France* wants no Wool^e, their own being so good; and *France* encourages the Importation of it. The *Irish* would persuade us, they have not much more Wool than supplies their own Manufactures (that is, for Exportation) and the clandestine *English* Traders and their Abettors, would persuade us, that exporting our Wool is a Gain to the Kingdom; for that otherwise it would be cheaper. But though 20 *per Cent.* should be gained in the Price of Wool, by encouraging the exporting of it, such do not consider that the Wool exported does, on a Medium, enable the foreign Manufacturers to work up double that Quantity of their own Wool into neat *English*-like Goods, which otherwise they could not.

Page 7.

5. Now the general Gain to the Kingdom, by manufacturing a hundred Pounds Worth of Wool, and exporting it in Goods, is 1080 *l.* * But considering that each Pack exported, is the Occasion of our losing the Manufacture and Sale of three Packs; the Loss by exporting a hundred Pounds Worth of Wool, is to lose the gaining of 3140 *l.*

6. We cannot agree with the Author of the *Golden Fleece*^f, that the Quantity of Wool yearly grown in
 §. 13. Great

* Ch. 84.
 §. 23.

* This Tract pretends to speak the Sentiments of a Number of real Woolen Manufacturers; and at the same Time supposes Wool, to the Value of a 100 *l.* to make Goods to the amount of 1080 *l.*; which is near three Times more than is commonly accounted of, upon an Average. The *British Merchant* reckons the Manufacture, on a Medium, at but four Times the Price of the Material. And I observe, that in the Arguments on this Head, at the Bar of the House of Lords^g, on occasion of the Bill for prohibiting the Exportation of Woolen Manufacture from *Ireland* to foreign Parts, that Wool in *Ireland*, Value 12 *s.* made a Piece of Serge of 1 *l.* 7 *s.* 11 *d.* which is but a little more than twice the Value of the Wool; and that the like Piece of Serge made from *English* Wool (in *England*) of 18 *s.* amounted to but 1 *l.* 19 *s.* 3 *d.* which also is but a little more than twice the prime Cost of the Wool. Again, we are informed from *Exeter* (See *British Merchant*, vol. 2. pag. 16---19) that Perpets, Worsted Chain, are valued at 2 *s.* a Pound, and Stuffs all Worsted, but at 3 *s.* on a Medium, at the Custom-House.

Great Britain and Ireland, is so much as 800,000 Packs; but we think that in *Great Britain* there is no more than 130,000 Packs: In *Ireland* 143,333 Packs; that from the former 40,000, and from the latter, 20,000 Packs are yearly exported unmanufactured; the general Loss whereby to the Kingdom, we compute at 11,304,000 *l.* This is a real Truth, unless it can be proved, that *our Wool* does not work up, on a Medium, double its Quantity abroad, or if it does, we should not supply those Markets, if the foreign Manufacturers did not; or if so much Wool is not exported †.

7. But if our Loss was but barely 3,096,000 *l.* the single Value of the Loss in 60,000 Packs of Wool exported, even that is considerable enough to deserve the Notice of the Nation. Thus as we have with great Faithfulness laid before your Honours the Greatness of our Loss, we beg Leave to offer what we think would be an effectual Means to prevent exporting, not only ours, but the *Irish Wool*.

8. Your Honours will observe, that the many different Proposals, which have of late Years been made, do all center in a Register. And indeed that would render the Exportation of it impossible, without discovering the Quantity, and by whom. Yet the Method of executing such a Registry by his Majesty's Officers, is pleasing neither to the Landed nor Trading Interest. But executing a general Register by the Traders themselves, would be pleasing to all, as it would be done in a friendly manner.

9. And therefore we pray, ' That a Power may be granted to the Merchants and Traders, and Dealers in Woolen Goods, Wool, Woolen Yarn, and Skirts with the Wool on, and to all Manufacturers thereof, and Tradesmen, whose Trades depend thereupon, in *Great Britain and Ireland*, to become one incorporated Company *, invested with a Power to put all the Laws in Execution, against exporting Wool out of *Great Britain and Ireland*, and Woolen Goods also out of *Ireland* to foreign Parts; and to Register all Wool

† These Gentlemen forget to put another possible Case, viz. whether Foreigners, ceasing to have the Quantity of our Wool here supposed, could not furnish themselves by some other Means, of Growth or Importation.

* *Monstrum horrendum ingens, cui lumen ademptum!*

‘ Wool in each Kingdom, and all grown yearly, &c.
 ‘ in such Manner, and by such Servants, as to the said
 ‘ Company shall be most agreeable to Trade in each
 ‘ Kingdom. And that the Members of the said Com-
 ‘ pany in *Great Britain*, may have Power to make *By-*
 ‘ *Laws* for both Kingdoms, for executing such Power,
 ‘ and to give to *Ireland* such Encouragement, as to her
 ‘ Wool and Yarn, as will be for advancing the Woolen
 ‘ Exportation Trade, and to raise the needful Charges
 ‘ of both Kingdoms, in *Great Britain*, from and within
 ‘ themselves, by a Quarterage, or otherwise, as may be
 ‘ agreed: *Ireland* to be at no Charge. And that all Post-
 ‘ age be free; that the civil Magistrate may be assisting,
 ‘ as Need may require; and that the present Duty on
 ‘ Irish Woolen Yarn imported, may be taken off.’

C H A P. CXXXIII.

Debates in Parliament *.

1. **B**EFORE the Peace of *Utrecht*, we had no Ri-
 val in the *Woolen Manufecture Trade* but the
Dutch †; and over them we have many natural Ad-
 vantages; both as to our Situation, the Goodness of our
 Ports,

* The Subject of this Debate was concerning a proposed Reduction of the Interest of the National Debt, *i. e.* of the redeemable Funds. But I have here taken only so much of the Argument as relates to the Woolen Trade of *England*. As it is well known, who it was that bore a principal Part in this Debate, on one Side of the Question especially; so it is not difficult to guess, to whom these Sentiments belong. If they are not historically correct, 'tis only to be imputed to his taking this Affair too much upon Trust, according to common Belief, and that general Corruption of Truth, which has prevailed in the Case of this, more than, I almost think, on any other Subject whatsoever.

Ch. 56.
 §. 26.

† Some *Turkey* Merchants also know 'their [*the French*]
 'Carcaffone Cloths find good Prices and many Buyers in the
 'Levant.' N. B. This was an Observation so long before
 the

Ports, and the principal constituent Materials of that Manufacture; all of which they are obliged to furnish themselves with at second Hand *.

2. To this I shall add, that when the Woolen Manufacture was first chiefly established in *England* (which was in the long and happy Reign of Queen *Elizabeth*) the Interest of Money was pretty much the same in both Countries; and the *Dutch* were engaged in a bloody and dangerous War, &c. So that their People had not much Time to think of improving any Sort of *Manufacture*. By these Means we got ourselves riveted in the Possession of all the principal Marts for Woolen Manufacture both in *Asia* and *Europe*; and that Possession was in good Measure kept till the Beginning of the last War with *France* and *Spain*, when we were so wise as to prohibit Trade with both. During that long Period, the People of *Turkey*, *Spain*, *Portugal*, and even in *France* † too, till the Revolution, became so accustomed to the wearing of *English* Cloths and Stuffs, that it was not easy to make them change their Merchant.

3. Thus by getting Possession of the Trade, and keeping that Possession, we acquired an Advantage which could not easily nor speedily be taken from us; and this acquired Advantage is, I am afraid, the chief Support of our present Exportation. But in a long Course of Time we may entirely lose this Advantage; and we are in the more Danger, because we have now got a Rival in the
Woolen

the Peace of Utrecht as the Year 1677. See also (Ch. 59. §. 8). France, in that Period, not only prohibiting English Drapery in that Kingdom, where before it was used to have a very large Vent, but rivalling England in all foreign Markets with the same Commodities. (See further, Chap. 99. §. 2. Chap. 101. §. 3. Chap. 102. §. 5. Note. §. 7. Note. Chap. 103. §. 5. Note. §. 7. Chap. 108. §. 2.)

* *Wool* I suppose to be principally meant here; which, as the *English* Manufacturers are seldom the Growers thereof, they, strictly speaking, purchase as much at second Hand, as the Woolen Manufacturers of any other Country do. But this is a Figure of Speech, denoting *another Difference*, which some Persons don't chuse to mention in so many plain Words. (See Chap. 47. §. 3. *Note*.)

† See Chap. 59. §. 7.

Woolen Manufacture Trade much more formidable than the *Dutch*, and of much more Danger and Consequence.

4. Before our late happy Revolution, they had but few Manufacturers of Woolen Cloth in *France*; and such as they had were of the coarsest Sort; so that they were furnished with all their fine Cloths either from *Holland* or *England*; but after the Revolution, we found ourselves, it seems, under a Necessity of prohibiting all Manner of Trade and Intercourse with that Kingdom. This prevented its being in their Power to have any Woolen Manufacture directly from *England*, which laid them under a Necessity, and at the same Time furnished them with the Means of improving what they had of their own; so that before the second War broke out, they had come some Length in the Manufacture of Woolen Cloths, especially Stuffs or Camblets; and by our prohibiting Trade with *Spain* as well as them at the Beginning of that War, we furnished them not only with a new Opportunity of improving their Woolen Manufacture, but likewise with an Opportunity of introducing it by Degrees into the Kingdom of *Spain*; and the Peace of *Utrecht* confirmed their Manufacture in the Advantage it had reaped in the War.

5. Ever since that Time, they have enjoyed almost an uninterrupted State of Tranquillity; during which Time, it must be confessed, they have made the best Use of the Benefits we bestowed upon them; for they have now brought their Woolen Manufacture to such Perfection, that they make superfine Woolen Cloths almost as fine and as good as we can do, and sell them much cheaper; by which Means they very much interfere with us in *Turkey* as well as *Spain*; in both which Places they as yet meet with some Difficulty, by Reason of the Attachment the People have in general to the Manufactures of this Kingdom; but that Attachment will at last wear off, and then it will be out of our Power to preserve any Share of the Trade, unless we can sell all Sorts of Woolen Manufacture as cheap as the *French* or any other Nation can do.

6. Now with respect to the Rivalship in this Trade between the *French* and us, it is very different from that between us and the *Dutch*. The Situation of the *French* is

rather more convenient for that Trade than ours; and our Ports are as good; then as to the Materials, the only Advantage we have over them consists in our Wool*; that they lye so conveniently for stealing it away from us, that 'tis hardly possible to prevent it; and as to *Spanish Wool* which is the chief Material in the Manufacture of the superfine Cloths, they lye more conveniently for having it, and may have it at a cheaper Rate than we can. From all which I must conclude, the chief Advantage we now enjoy in this Manufacture, is the superior Skill, Dexterity, and Numbers of our Workmen, and the old Attachment to the Woollen Manufactures of this Kingdom; something of which still remains in *Turkey, Spain, and Portugal*; but this will wear off by Degrees, if we cannot sell as cheap as any other Nation; and the *French* Workmen will be every Day improving and increasing. These are our Circumstances, and they shew what bad Effects our present State of high Interest may have upon our foreign Trade and home Manufacturers.

In

* And wherein does this Advantage consist, which the *English* have from *their Wool*? Have not the *French* Wool of their own? Yes, they have; but it is not so good, generally speaking, as *English Wool*. Well! but cannot the *French* be accommodated elsewhere with Wool as good as the *English*? Yes! for the Purpose of making Cloth especially, with much better, from *Portugal and Spain*. What then can be the Advantage to the *English* in respect of their Wool? Why, 'tis cheaper than any other Wool of equal Goodness. What! considerably cheaper than other Wool, beyond the Difference of Freight and Factorage? O Yes, considerably, BECAUSE (*by the Law*) *English Wool* can be purchased by *English Persons ONLY*; the like to which does not appear to be the *Law* of any other Country. Why then is not the *French* who steal our Wool from us; but it is we, who steal it to them, in order to have a *Market Price* for it (as will be demonstrated). But tho' the *French* could not steal it from *England*, or rather, tho' the *English* could not steal it into *France*; yet, whether this Gentleman knew much or not, the *British Merchant* hath assured his Countrymen, that the *French cannot want Wool* for ANY KIND OF WORK; for ANY PART OF THE WOOLEN MANUFACTURE.

Ch. 105.
§. 12; 14

In Answer to this it was said,

7. The *French* have not any natural Advantage over us, worth mentioning, but that of theugal and penurious Temper of the People, especially Labourers and Manufacturers. For the Freight Ship from any Port in *England* to *Spain* or *Tur* very near as cheap as from any Port of *France*; and the Difference can have no Influence upon a rich (and if it could, the Expence of their carrying their to their Ports, for Export, is generally much higher *France* than in *England*; which will more than for any Difference there may be in Freight: And same Reason, a Quantity of *Spanish* Wool may come cheaper to the Manufacturer in *England*, the same Quantity can come to the Manufacturer in . But then, as to the Advantages we have over them are innumerable, and the single one, of our *Wool* such a one, as we may by proper Care and Diligence make insurmountable. *For the more careful and diligent we are to prevent its Exportation*, the greater the Benefit of exporting it will be; and the greater the Risk, the*

* Ch. 48.
§. 3.

* The more it is confined to be purchased by Manufacturers only, the more will they be able to bear the Price thereof in the Markets of *England*; consequently the greater will be the Temptation to carry it abroad; and as Sir *Josiah Child* has rightly observed the Effect will be accordingly. So that this is a Rule like that of Drinking, for a Dropsy; I know that a certain Doctrine has been wisely enough, but not so truly maintained by several Writers on this Subject, namely, confining our Wool entirely, is in itself a Means to raise the Price of it. But Facts in this Case, fairly stand against them, as also the Nature and Reason of Things we shall be able to give Proof, even to Demonstration that preventing absolutely the Exportation of *Wool* by prohibitory Laws, a Register, &c. (was that practice) can in itself answer no End at all to the *English* Wool manufacture and Exportation Trade, but as it would make *Wool* of Great Britain and Ireland so much cheaper. that Cheapness of Wool is an Advantage to the Export Trade, will admit of no Dispute; but how far a partial Advantage, thus obtained, (viz. at the Expence of a very considerable Body of Men, the Owners of Sheep

Price will be in France, so that at last, we may raise the Price so high as to make it impossible for their Manufacturers to work it up with Advantage.

Here it was replied.

8. I am surprized to hear it said, we can carry on our Trade in the Mediterranean, so cheap, or so easily, as the French can do at their Ports of *Marfeilles* and *Genoul*; or that we carry on a Trade with *Portugal*, or any Part of *Spain* without the *Streights*, so cheap as the French can do from their Ports on the Bay of *Biscay*. When as to our Wool, I wish with all my Heart, we could render the Exportation of it impracticable; but I believe the only effectual Way of doing so is, to enable our Manufacturers and Merchants to work it up at home, and sell it so wrought up in foreign Markets, as cheap as such Manufactures can be sold by any of our foreign Neighbours*; for if we should once lose the sale of such Manufactures at foreign Markets, we cannot

of general Benefit to the Community, may be doubted; but that it is a particular Injury to the Wool Grower, is beyond all Question. And these are Points worth Consideration; how to give every Interest its just Due, with Advantage to the whole; which I reserve to be discussed hereafter, when every Circumstance and Fact shall have been set in a true Light.

* This Gentleman has touched upon the right Scent, in rendering the Exportation of Wool impracticable—But he wants, either of pursuing the Thought, or of explaining himself sufficiently, he has left the Matter just where it was.

Had he said, 'to enable our Manufacturers to give as much for the Wool of Great Britain and Ireland, as foreign Manufacturers will give for the same, or for Wools of equal Goodness; and to enable our Merchants to sell it, when wrought up, in foreign Markets, as cheap as such Manufactures can be sold by any of our foreign Neighbours,' he would have spoke clearly and intelligibly, and fully to the purpose.—But, if by 'enabling our Manufacturers and Merchants to work it up at home, and sell it so wrought up in foreign Markets as cheap, &c.' he meant that this was to be effected by Means of having the Wool any thing considerably cheaper; in that Case, such comparative Cheapness

not make Use of all our Wool in working up for home Consumption; and if we cannot work it up at home, will, like *Spanish Gold and Silver*, find its Way out, in Spite of the several Laws, and the greatest Care we can take for preventing it. Our Laws will then serve only for running down the Price upon the Farmer; for as he *must* sell; if he cannot find a Buyer at home, he must take what Price he *can* get from the Smuggling Exporter who in that Case, will be sure to make the Farmer pay for the Risk he runs in exporting.

C H A P. CXXXIV.

*Reflections and Considerations, occasioned by the Petition presented to the Honourable House of Commons, for taking off the Drawback on foreign Linens, &c. 1738 *.*

1. **T**HE Petition sets forth, 'That the Manufacturers of Linen now labour under several Discouragements, but more particularly on Account

of Wool would have the very same Effect, which he himself mentions, from '*losing the Sale of such Manufactures at foreign Markets.*' A Share of the Wool would in Course (like *Spanish Gold and Silver*) find its Way out to the better Market.

* I meddle not with this Tract, and what further I mention with wrote upon the same Occasion, but as the Argument some Way or other, respects the Woolen Trade. The Drift of the Petition, we may perceive, was to get the Drawback, of foreign Linens exported to our Plantations taken off, in Favour to the *British and Irish Linen Manufactures*. In the Course of which Controversy will be seen the Progress of these Manufactures in *Great Britain and Ireland*; also how they do in some Degree impair the Woolen Exportation Trade of *England*; and as the Increase of the Linen Trade is one Proof among many others, that in general, the manufacturing Interests of these Kingdoms have been in no unprosperous State; so it accounts in some Measure (as the Laws are) for *Wool* having been, for several Years together, at an extreme low Price; a peculiar Hardship on the Grower!

of the Drawbacks allowed on Exportation of foreign Linens, Threads, and Tapes; by Means whereof considerable Quantities have been, and are still sent to Parts beyond the Seas, to the great Hinderance of the Consumption of our own Produce and Manufactures, and therefore praying, &c.

2. Except in the Article of Linen, I cannot say that the *British Subjects in America*, are under any Temptation to deal with Foreigners for Goods or Manufactures of any Kind; otherwise, like the rest of Mankind, they would buy at the cheapest Hand, and if it was worth their while, manufacture more than they do. And if Page 12. the Drawback was wholly taken off, so that they were to pay 14 *per Cent.* more than they do for Linen; would it not be in Effect, a Bounty of 14 *per Cent.* for Encouragement of their own Manufacture *?

3. But there is a more weighty Consideration still behind; and that is, supposing us able, in Time to come, to manufacture Linen sufficient for our own Consumption, what will become of the *Woolen Manufactures*, which those Countries took from us, from whence we were supplied with foreign Linens †? If they take off our Woolens, with other Product and Manufactures, as of *Sheffield* and *Birmingham*, and the Goods we import from *India*, to as great a Value, as we take from them, which I really believe they do, and greater; can we have the least

* And to shew that this is no chimerical Imagination; upon Inquiry, it will be found, that both coarse and fine Linen are manufactured there already.

† Are they not as capable of manufacturing WOOLEN, as we are of Linen? Or can we oblige them to take none any where else, or prohibit their manufacturing for themselves? Or can we be sure that in Resentment they may not impose a Duty on our Manufactures, equal to what we lay upon them, or totally refuse to make Use of them, as *Russia* did not long ago? If we can do neither of the first, nor be sure of the last, why must we lose or destroy so considerable a Branch of our *Woolen Manufacture*, not to mention many others, for the bare Chance of raising and encouraging another Manufacture, which neither by Nature, or Art, we are so capable of excelling our Neighbours in?

Russia refused to make Use of English Woolen Manufacture.

least Reason to desire a Change in so profitable a Branch of Commerce?

C H A P. CXXXV.

The Case of the British and Irish Manufacture of Linen, Threads and Tapes fairly stated, and all the Objections against the Encouragement proposed to be given to that Manufacture, fully answered.

In a Letter, 1738.

1. **T**HE chief Methods of gaining Riches are, Agriculture, Fishery, Manufacture; and of these, Manufacture is the most advantageous to a Nation, because employing and maintaining most; and of all Sorts of Manufacture, Linen and Woolen are, for the same Reason, most beneficial, and because they are most necessary in Life. Which of these two ought to have the Preference, I shall not determine. Nevertheless, every Nation ought to turn their Lands and Hands chiefly to the Produce of that which employs the greatest Number of Poor, and may be raised to the highest Value by Manufacture. According to this Rule, let us examine this Affair, upon the Foot of the Calculations of the accurate and ingenious *Arthur Dobbs*, Esq; in his *Essay on the Trade and Improvement of Ireland*, who makes the Profits from Wool completely manufactured, amount to near 6*l.* per Acre, but from Hemp and Flax, to 27 and 28*l.*; hence it is easy to judge which deserves most to meet with publick Encouragement.

2. In a Country, where any Manufacture has been long established, the Workmen are so dexterous and numerous, that they can make cheapest and best. They have the Name, and common Opinion; established Custom and Correspondence of Dealers is on their Side; which makes it very difficult for any neighbouring Country to set up such a Manufacture even for home Consumption.

Consumption. From hence we must be convinced, that when any Nation has a Mind to set up a Manufacture, which a neighbouring Nation is in Possession of, they must particularly encourage it, 1. By Bounties; 2. by loading *its Rival*, the foreign Manufacture, with Duties; and 3. by making it the Fashion to wear it.

3. Now though no actual Encouragement has been given in this Case, yet the People of *England* have taken Advantage of the high Duties our Necessities have obliged us to lay upon foreign Linen imported and consumed here at home, to push the Linen Manufacture further than is commonly imagined, as the following Piece of political Arithmetick * will probably shew. And I think it beyond all Question, that a greater Quantity of Linen is manufactured in *England*, than either in *Scotland* or *Ireland*. 'Tis true, the *English* Manufacture of that Commodity is not publickly known, because a great Share of it is made in private Families for their own Use, or made and consumed in our Country Towns and Villages, and that Part of it which comes to *London*, is brought hither by Land-Carriage, so that it is seldom

* Let us imagine 14 Millions of People in the three Kingdoms and the Plantations; that they consume annually, at 5 Ells or 6 Yards $\frac{1}{4}$ per Head	}	87,500,000 Yds.
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* By the Custom-House Books, our Importation from foreign Parts, on a Medium, from 1728 to 1734, is	}	32,000,000 Yds.
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* The Consumption in <i>Scotland</i> probably, is	}	12,500,000
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* Exportation thence, to my best Information	}	4,000,000
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* Consumption in <i>Ireland</i> , probably	}	12,500,000
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* Exportation thence, on a Medium, to <i>England</i> , according to Custom-House Accounts	}	5,000,000
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Total 66,000,000

* Remains of the whole Consumption; every Yard of which must be made in <i>England</i> .	}	21,500,000
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dom heard of but among our Manufacturers and Dealers in Linen.

4. It has been observed, that Duties on foreign Linens, like other Duties, were only imposed for the Support of Government, not with a View of encouraging the Manufacture at home; for which Reason, Drawbacks were allowed upon foreign Linens transported to our Plantations, as to any other Parts. But if the Affair had been well considered, tho' upon the Foot of common Policy, of encouraging Trade and Navigation, the Drawback of all the Duty should have took Place, in Case of Re-exportation to foreign independent Countries; yet to our Plantations, the whole Duty should have remained, as if for home Consumption; and that by Way of Encouragement to our own *home Manufactures of Linen*. But we did neither, *i. e.* we neither took it all off from independent Countries, nor laid it all on, to the Plantations; so by the former hurt our Navigation Trade, by the latter, our own Manufacture. The Effects are evident, from the small Quantity of foreign Linens we export, except to our Plantations; and the vast Quantity of coarse foreign Linens exported to our Plantations, shew how prejudicial that Export is to our *home Manufacture*.

¹ Ch. 134.
§. 3.

5. 'Tis said¹ with regard to *Germany*, we take their Linens, they take our Woolen and other Manufactures, particularly of Iron, some of the Produce of our Plantations, and *East India* Goods, to an equal or a greater Value. As to Woolen Manufactures, they have certainly set up several of their own in many Parts of *Germany*, particularly in *Prussia*, and which interferes with our *Woolen Trade to Russia*. Even at *Altena*, which tho' under the Dominion of *Denmark*, may be called one of the Suburbs of *Hamburg*; they have lately set up a Woolen Manufacture, which prospers exceedingly, and is greatly carested and encouraged by the whole Neighbourhood. Thus our Trade to *Germany* may soon become a losing Trade to *England*, if it is not so already.

6. But to pretend that any the greatest Advantage by Commerce with any foreign Country, should make us neglect to improve our own Produce and Manufacture, is most ridiculous. Upon such Principles, we should
never

never have had any Sugar, or Tobacco Plantations; because *Spain* and *Portugal*, where we had a beneficial Trade, and especially for Woolens, furnished us with those Commodities. But Queen *Elizabeth* judged it better, and settled Colonies in *America*. *Sweden* and *Denmark* are both allowed to be great Gainers by their Trade with *Britain*; yet both have lately begun to rival us in the *East India* Trade; and the latter has lately begun to rival us in our *Woolen Manufacture*.

7. But say these Gentlemen, If you take no Linen from *Germany*, they can take none of your Goods, because they will have nothing to give you in return. They might not, perhaps, be able to purchase so many of the *Superfluities*; but what we furnish them with, are chiefly the *Necessaries* or *Conveniencies* of Life. They would still be able to purchase *Yorkshire Drabs*, *Norwich Stuffs*, *Birmingham* and *Sheffield Wares*, &c. It is more than probable, that if we did not take a Yard of Linen from *Germany*, they would take from us as much as they do at present. Thus the frightful Apprehension, of diminishing our *Woolen Manufacture*, must entirely vanish. They will never want something to give us in return for our *Woolen Manufactures*. Our only Danger is, lest they should be sufficiently enriched by selling us Linen, to set up *Woolen Manufactures*; which, when they are, they will certainly do, and then lay high Duties upon, or prohibit the Importation of our *Woolen Manufactures*, and leave us to do as we *will*, or *can*, in the Article of Linen.

8. As to the Objection, ‘ That foreign States may hereby be provoked to lay high Duties, and perhaps, Prohibitions upon the Manufactures of this Kingdom.’ As to those of them, which any of our Neighbours can make at home, they have already done this; nor can we blame them. But for what they cannot, that would be only laying a Tax upon their own People. Besides, they would have no more Reason to resent our taxing foreign Linen consumed in our Plantations, than those consumed in *Great Britain*.

9. I cannot quit this Argument without desiring you to recollect the great Incroachments that have been made, of late Years, upon our *Woolen Manufactures*. The *French* not only supply themselves, but send large Quantities

ties to *Spain* and *Turkey*. The *Prussians* not only supply themselves, but send large Quantities to *Russia*, and several Parts in the *North-Germany*. The *Danes*, as I have already mentioned, are taking all the Measures they can think of, for setting up *Woolen Manufactures*. And even in *Flanders*, since that Country came into the Hands of the Emperor, they have been, and are still at vast Pains to re-establish the *Woolen Manufacture*, and have lately resolved to cloath their Army with the *Woolen Manufactures* of their own Country only. All these Nations formerly made Use of very little else but the *Woolen Manufactures* of *England*; therefore the Consumption of our *Woolen Manufactures* in *Asia* and *Europe* must certainly have decreased within these forty or fifty Years. And this Decrease would have been more severely felt, if it had not been for the Increase of our Plantations abroad, and our *Linen Manufactures* at home. We have therefore great Reason to take every Measure we can think of, for encouraging home Manufactures of every Kind *.

C H A P.

* *The Sentiments of another Writer on this Head, when the Subject was again brought upon the Tapis in 1740, run thus.*

‘ ‘Tho’ no Man living wishes more warmly the Improvement of the *Scotch* and *Irish* Linen than I do, yet I cannot agree that we should sacrifice our whole Trade to *Hamburg*, and other Parts of *Germany*, in Complaisance to our Brethren of the *North* and *West*; who in such Cases would not fail to make *England* pay what Rates they pleased for this Manufacture. But this would be the least Evil attending such a Prohibition of *German* Linen, as was intended by the Bill. If we deal with the Inhabitants of *Silesia*, *Saxony*, *Bohemia*, and *Poland* (whence alone we have all the Linens called *German* Linen) we must be contented to barter our *Woolen* and other Manufactures, our *East India* Commodities, and the Growth of our Colonies for their Linens; for they have neither Bullion nor other Commodities; and either we must give up the whole Trade, or make our Returns in such Goods as that extended Country affords.’

☞ *I desire to remark here, as follows; first, that according to the Opinion of this Gentleman (which accords with the Sentiments of many others, and wherein there is undoubtedly some Truth) when the Parliament, in order to suppress the Woolen*

C H A P. CXXXVI.

An Essay on Riots, &c. * 1739.

1. **T**HE Riot of the poor Weavers and other Woolen Manufacturers in *Wilts*, is said to have been occasioned by Oppression, in various Shapes, practised towards them by *some Clothiers*.——The Badness, or rather the Decay of the Woolen Trade, acknowledged by all, and occasioned by the Rivalship of *France* and other neighbour Nations, must needs be attended with fatal Effects to Masters as well as Workmen.

2. The Progress of our Neighbours in that Trade, is said to be owing to our *Run Wool*, and to their underselling our Merchants at foreign Markets. Be these Things

Woolen Exportation Trade from Ireland to foreign Parts, gave the People of that Kingdom such ample Encouragement in the Linen Trade; whatever Benefit may have accrued to both Kingdoms, from such Irish Linen Trade, particularly; yet was there no clear Gain by it, to the Woolen Trade of England.

Further, I observe, that if the Trade in Poland, for Instance, is best carried on by Barterⁿ: As Wool is a prin^m Ch. 94. cipal Commodity of Poland, so it might be an Advantage to §. 8. the Trade of England, to be in a Condition of importing POLONIA WOOLS. This we knowⁿ the English Merchantsⁿ Ch. 36. did formerly. But since Wool from England, has been abso- §. 2. Note. lutely prohibited to be exported, the English Wool, in Consequence of the Monopoly occasioned by such Prohibition, has been so much cheaper, comparatively, than the Wool of Poland, that this Trade has wholly ceased. In which View, the Advantages to be accounted of, from prohibiting absolutely the Exportation of Wool, are no more all clear Gain to the English Merchants, than the Purchase, of prohibiting Irish Woolen Goods from going to a foreign Market, at the Price of the Linen Manufacture there, has been, to the English Woolen Manufacturer.

* In the Month of December 1738, was a Riot in *Wiltshire*, in which the Goods of Mr. *Coulthorst* and other Clothiers, were destroyed, &c. and their Dwelling-houses attempted to be pulled down; for which Fact, three Persons, viz.

Things as they will, they are no Justification of the late Riot, and I could wish that a mixed Commission might be appointed, consisting of *Gentlemen* and *Clothiers* of the best Character that can be picked out in the Country, to examine impartially into the Causes of the late Riot, as

— 1. *If any Combinations have been entred into, to lower the Price of Weaving, Spinning, &c. and by whom?* —

2. *If any Masters have forced the poor Manufacturers to take Truck, and at what Prices?* —

3. *If any Masters have obliged their Work People to buy Bread, &c. at any particular Shops, and how they have been served?* —

4. *If some particular Manufacturers do not give extravagant Rents for their Tenements, &c. and if they are not under Compulsion from their Masters in that Article?* —

5. *Who were the Heads of the late Riot? what Damage is done? and what Sums may be raised through the Country by the Statutes against Truck or Combinations, towards paying the Damages?*

3. I cannot conclude without wishing some Publick-spirited Person well skilled in all the different Branches of a *Clothier's Trade*, would publish a short Essay, to shew the Prices now commonly given by our ready Money Clothiers to their several Sorts of Work People; that so the Publick may judge what clear Profit a Clothier has. My Reason for it is; that as Money is sunk to three per Cent. Interest with many People, the Profits might appear so considerable, as would probably prevail on some to employ their Money in that. No body can think the *Mystery of Cloth-working* inscrutable, when he sees how many People practise it, who never served a regular Apprentice-

viz. a Weaver, a Sheerman, and a Bricklayer, were executed at *Sarum*.

Ch. 137. N. B. *It seems by what follows, that the Master Clothiers had lately fallen the Rate of their Workmens Wages; and that this was looked upon as having furnished a Pretence for the Riot.*

And what was the Pretence for falling Wages at this Time? a supposed Want of Trade for Woolen Goods. And this, tho' generally believed about that Time (we have learned since) could not be the Case, in Regard to the Woolen Exportion Trade; forasmuch, as the *English Woolen Exports*, from *Christmas 1737*, to *Christmas 1738*, were remarkably great. (See Chap. 176. P. S.)

prenticeship to it. And one that has Money of his own in his Pocket, may make a *better Master*, and get as much, as those who make Cloth on other Peoples Stocks *.

C H A P. CXXXVII.

Remarks on the Essay on the Weavers Riot, &c. 1739.

1. **O**NE Cause of these Riots is said to be, Oppression of the Poor by their rich Masters. 1. *By entering into Combinations to lower Wages.* 2. *Not paying their Wages.* 3. *Or else paying them in Truck, by Goods at an advanced Price.* As to the first and second of these, I must declare myself an absolute Stranger to any such Methods of Practice.

2. But, that the Workmen are able in a dull Season of Trade, &c. when Work is scarce, &c. to make their Wages as comfortable, as in a quick Time of Trade, when their Hands are full, is not to be supposed; for in the Clothing Trade, as in other Employments, the Value of Labour has its Ups and Downs, according to the Demand for it. If the Necessity of the Times require it, and the Master advertises his Servants that he can give but 14 *d.* instead of 15 or 16 *d. per Yard*, must this be called Oppression? When at the same Time, the Workman is at full Liberty to make the most of his Labour elsewhere? Again, when the Workman has finished his Piece of Work, if the Master pays him his agreed Price, what Ground of Complaint has the Workman? If the Master refuses, the Remedy is easy, by Recourse to a Magistrate.—But if on the contrary, the Workman has ill wrought that Piece, or feloniously detained from the Master any Part of his Stuff, every Master has a Right

* In this Chapter we have seen many Things insinuated to the Disadvantage of the Master Clothiers. In the next, we shall see how far the Charge is denied, and in what Instances confessed, and how vindicated, or excused.

Right to exact Reparation, to be settled by a Magistrate, unless (as is frequently the Case) the Workman (rather than be exposed) chuses to agree the Damage with the Master at a small Allowance. But will this be called *defrauding, or oppressing the Servants*? So far from it, that I am apt to believe, the Lenity shewn to Workmen, on these Occasions, has been a great Cause of the several Riots and Insults made upon them of late Years; and that if the Clothiers, instead of this false Pity shewn, had put the Laws in Execution against Felony, we had ere now got rid of the greatest Number of those idle immoral Wretches, that generally turn out the Ring-Leaders of such Assemblies.

3. As to the honest and industrious Part of our Work People, no doubt, the Decay of Trade must affect them. And it's well known, the Impoverishment of many reputable Masters is to be ascribed to their keeping on Business, in Tenderneſs to the Poor, without any View but their Employment and Service. But the Clothiers are not obliged to ruin themselves, as has been the Misfortune of a great many within these few Years.

4. Some Branches of our Woolen Fabrick are quite lost; others going along with our Wool. And indeed there seem to be but two Remedies; the one is, securing our Wool from falling into our Rivals Hands; and the other, by lowering the Prices of our Workmanship. If the Clothiers apply for the former, they are answered; that will sink the Price of Wool, disable Tenants from paying Rents, &c. And if a Reduction in the Price of Labour is attempted, we are charged by our Author with Injustice, and are said hereby to be driving the Poor on to this riotous Method of revenging themselves upon their Masters for their Oppressions, &c.

5. But one Thing I am led here to observe, which must affect the Poor much more than the Penny *per* Yard abated, and contribute more to the late Disorders, *viz.* That at the Time of the rising, there was not less than 60 Looms standing still, for want of Employment, in that Neighbourhood.—And without some Regard to be had for the Preservation of our *foreign* Trade, I despair of seeing our Hands better filled.

6. As to the clear Profits of the Clothier, if the Author has Courage enough to make the Purchase, I will insure

insure him, the neat Produce on 4 Fifths of the Woolen Goods that have been made for seven Years past in the three Western Counties of *Wilts, Somerset, and Gloucester*, for 3 *per Cent. per Ann.* on the Stock employed in those Trades. Nay, I will go farther, and engage to deliver him several hundred thousand Pounds worth of Woolen Goods at 5 *per Cent.* less than Prime Cost.

7. As to the Article of *Trucking*, I own it to be a Practice not only illegal, but scandalous; yet it is attended with worse Consequences by far to the Fair-Trader, than to the Workman that complies with it, who as he knows before-hand the Disadvantages thereof, so he knows how to suit his Workmanship thereto. I am very glad to hear that a large Body of Clothiers are so heartily disposed and engaged to put a Stop to *Truck*, but am afraid the Work People are but too well reconciled to the Payments of their *Trucking*, or they would have accepted the Offer * made them. But were the Author to consider this in his own Light, as an Oppression, yet it's stupid to affirm it the Cause of the Riot at *Melksham*; seeing neither Mr. *Colthurst*, nor any Gentleman upon whom Depredations were committed, ever made any other Payments, that ever I could learn, than in Money; and if this was the Cause of Complaints, why was any other struck at but Delinquents?

C H A P. CXXXVIII.

The Case between the Clothiers and Weavers,
1739.

1. **I**N Towns where the Woolen Manufacture is carried on, proper Employment is to be found for every Sort of People. In these Parts, Wages are much greater, and Employment more constant, than in most other. The following is no mean Proof of the high Wages as well as Luxury of the Manufacturers. In the Town

* What that Offer was, does not appear.

Town of *Trowbridge*, where the Inhabitants have been computed at about 3000 Men, Women, and Children, there are near 2000 Hogheads of strong Beer drank in a Year, as appears by the Excise Books; and yet we have no great Market, but for Flesh and Greens and Roots, and no great Thorough-fare from or to any Place. To this we may add thirty or forty Gin-houses. Their high Wages furnish them with the Means of Debauching. The only Way to make the Poor sober, industrious, &c. is to take away those Means, and that of the Beggars Song, *The Parish is bound to find us, &c.*

2. [*To shew that there is Room for the lowering of Wages.*] A Weaver and his Family may subsist as well as the Poor do in many Countries in *England*, by only working one Half of his Time. A constant Labourer in Husbandry, and his Family, don't earn above Half the Money as a Weaver. But the Parsimony and Sobriety of the former keeps him and his in much the better Plight. You shall see far better Accommodations in his House than in the Manufacturers, although the latter is so much better paid for his Labour.

3. Let us see how far the Clothier may fall the Price of Labour, without incurring the Odium of Oppression. Our Laws are so tender of the Poor, that where a Man cannot maintain himself, the Parish must. This Law has been condemned by several, as the Bane of Manufactury. The *Dutch* have their Poor under another Regulation; and yet there is scarce a Beggar to be seen. The Poor never want Relief or Work, as their Case requires. They take Care to afford Employment, and don't so much regard the Cheapness of Provisions, well knowing that Hunger and Cold will make People work, in order to eat, &c. *Flanders*, and *Hamburgh*, pursue the same Measures for suppressing Idleness and Beggary.

4. How different is the Policy of the *Dutch* from the Opinion of the *Author of the Essay on Riots*. *Dutch Policy* lades all the Necessaries of Life, to make the Poor diligent and sober. Our Politician is for taking off all Taxes which affect the Poor, though they have already the Means of Luxury and Idleness. One Argument against lowering the Wages of the Weavers, &c. is built on a Presumption, *That no Nation will ever arrive at the same Perfection in manufacturing Cloth, as ourselves;*
and

and therefore we shall always have a Market, tho' other Countries manufacture and sell much cheaper. This appears to me an egregious Piece of Vanity! We had our Skill from the *Louvainers*, &c. and why they and the *French* should be for ever incapable of arriving at the same Perfection as ourselves, must appear to every thinking Man an inscrutable Mystery.

5. A Gentleman who now resides at an *English* Factory at *Lisbon*, told me, that their House had consigned to it as good fine *French* Cloth made of *Spanish* Wool, for 13 s. per Yard, as they could buy from *England* for 15 or 16 s. That the *Portuguese* preferred the first, on Account of its Cheapness*; wherefore they were obliged to import the *French* on *English* Bottoms, and sell it as *English*, in order to have somewhat to do. Thus the *French*, by Dint of low Wages, are running away with our Manufactures, while we are buoying up ourselves with vain Boasts and empty Imaginations, that we out-trade and out-sell every one.

6. Another Argument against lowering of Wages, is, that it would sink the Goodness of Manufactures, by obliging the Poor to work quicker and slighter. Answ. *The best Goods are made in the worst Times.* When Employment is scarce, every Manufacturer endeavours after Perfection in his particular Branch, for Fear of being dismissed. In Dearness of Provisions it is just the same. If Wheat sells for 10 or 12 s. a Bushel, the Manufacturers are obliged to work more, and debauch less.

7. Another

* Admitting, what is here alledged, to be true in some Degree; nevertheless observe, tho' it is first said, 'as good fine Cloth for 13 s. per Yard as they buy from England for 16 s. Yet it being here said also, that the *Portuguese* preferred the former for its Cheapness:' Thence I think is to be concluded, not that *French* Cloth, at 13 s. was as good, Yard for Yard, as was the *English* at 16 s. Because in that Case, it was no Choice in the *Portuguese*, to resolve to buy *French* rather than *English* Cloth; since that would have been, in Effect, only resolving rather to pay 13 s. than 16 s. for the very same Thing. And therefore what I understand is, that the *French* Cloth, tho' in Fact, not so good as the *English*, yet being thought as well worth 13 s. as the *English* was worth 15 or 16 s. THEREFORE, the *Portuguese* preferred it, as coming for less Money.

7. Another Argument against lowering Wages, is, that the Poor hereby would be incapable to make such great Consumption in Provisions; which would be an Injury to the Farmer. But this is a Mistake, the Poor in the manufacturing Countries will never work any more Time in general, than is necessary just to live and support their weekly Debauches. Upon the whole we may justly aver, that a Reduction of Wages in the Woollen Manufactures would be a national Blessing and Advantage, and no real Injury to the Poor. By this Means we might keep our Trade, uphold our Rents, and reform the People into the Bargain.

8. The *French*, the *Dutch*, the *Flemings*, the *Irish*, work much cheaper than we; they live, many of them, exceeding hard, and labour for very low Wages. Had not the Legislature interposed, the *Irish* would have run away with all our Woollen Trade long ago, merely by the Dint of manufacturing at low Prices.

9. Mr. *Wood* argues thus, 'The Woollen Manufacture is undoubtedly by Laws, and all possible Care to be encouraged; but 'tis its Exportation abroad, and not the Consumption of it at home', that must bring Profit to the Kingdom. And indeed the best Way of promoting the *Woollen Manufacture*, is not to force its Consumption at home, but by wholesome and good Laws to contrive, that it might be wrought and manufactured cheaply; which only can enable us to command the Markets, and truly make this Kingdom a Gainer by it. It is certain, no Country in *Europe* manufactures all Kinds of Goods so dear as the People of this Kingdom; which gives the *French* and other Nations, a vast Advantage in carrying their Manufactures to Market, and enables them to become, tho' not in Goodness, yet in the Cheapness of them, our Rivals in Trade to almost all Countries.'

Ch. 79.

§. 2. Note.

10. The *Spectator* says, 'it seems a Paradox, that the Price of Labour should be reduced without an Abatement of Wages, or that Wages can be abated without any Inconvenience to the Labourer; yet nothing is more certain, than that both these Things may happen. The Wages of the Labourers make the greatest Part of the Price of every Thing that is useful; and if in Proportion with the Wages, the Prices of all other

other Things should be abated, every Labourer with less Wages would still be able to purchase as many Necessaries of Life; where then would be the Inconvenience? Here I would remark, that putting our Manufacturers under a Necessity of working constantly, would perhaps in the Woolen Trade, amount to the same Thing, as an Addition of one Third ^{or} more Ch. 145.
Hands. §. 3. Note.

11. But to consider this as a domestick Affair only between the Clothier and Manufacturer. Supposing Trade, Ch. 177.
from a Glut of Goods unfold, so bad, that the Clothier should resolve to drop the greatest Part of his Business, or give less Wages, in order to make himself amends for a dead Stock lying upon his Hands; where is the Injustice or Oppression? are not both Parties free? §. 29. Note.
A superfine Cloth costs 30 or 40 s. more the compleating, than it did twenty Years ago, and yet it sells for sometimes 20 s. less. Is it reasonable that the same Prices be given for Labour now, as were given formerly, when the Profits of the Trade were double what they are now? The Gentlemen and Magistrates ought to aid and encourage the Clothier, in the Reduction of the Price of Labour, so far as is consistent with the Laws of Humanity, and necessary for the Preservation of the foreign Trade. We must by some Means or other reduce the Price of Labour, that our Manufactures may find a Vent in foreign Markets. For it is on our foreign Trade or Exports, the Riches of the Nation depend. For, suppose we should lose but one half of our Exports of Woolen Goods, which have been valued at 4,000,000 l. * *per Ann.* the
Amount

* Whatever may be the real Value of Woolen Goods ordinarily exported from *England*, within the Circle of one Year, the Custom-House Accounts, upon an Average, do not, in this Case, amount to any Thing near that Sum; altho' those of the Year 1737—8 exceed it. And yet remarkably great were the Complaints of that very Time, concerning a supposed Decay of the *English* foreign Trade, and yet more particularly, with Regard to the *Woolen Exportation Trade*. Nor is it less to be remarked, how extreme low was the Price of *English* Wool in *England*, at the same Time also. (See Chap. 176. P. 8.)

Amount of 'the Wool unfold, the first Year, would be 251,000 *l.* which will lie by on Hand, and sink the Price exceeding low; and the Amount of the Labour of the People (thereby lost) would be 1,750,000 *l.* which at 6*l.* per Head per Ann. will maintain near 300,000 Persons.

12. I come now to the Charge against the Clothiers, of combining together, to lower the Wages of the Manufacturers. If there be any Combination (which is what I know not of) why are not the Authors prosecuted according to Law? The Manufacturers have, by their Clubs, a Stock of several hundred Pounds Capital; so that they are not incapacitated to prosecute Combinations, or to put down the Business of *Truck*, if they had Inclination; and therefore I conclude, that *Trucking* is no real Grievance to the Manufacturer, whatever they may pretend.

^r Ch. 62. *The Tyranny of the Blackwel-Hall Factors*.

§. 6. Note. 13. The Sufferings of the Poor employed in working Chap. 76. up *Spanish Wool*, are not owing to the Unmercifulness of the Clothiers, but the *Tyranny of Blackwel-Hall* §. 5. Factors; who though originally but the Servants of the Chap. 78. Makers, are now become their Masters, and not only §. 1. Note. theirs, but the Wool Merchants and Drapers too.

14. Perhaps, Sir, You may ask how it is possible that these Men, who stile themselves but Factors or Agents, could find Means to Lord it as Tyrants over their Employers? Why thus: They have managed it so, that the Merchant dare not sell his Wool to the Clothier, nor the Clothier presume to buy it of the Merchant. On this grand Point their whole Power is founded. To make this clear, Sir, you are to understand, that in the Year 1695, the Clothiers finding themselves in much the same Circumstances they are at present, by their Credit given to the Drapers on one Hand, and their being obliged to purchase Wool of the Factors, on the other, applied in a Body to Parliament for Relief, and an Act was accordingly pass'd for restoring to them *Blackwel-Hall* for a Market, limiting the Credit to be given for their Goods, to six Months; obliging the Factor to demand Notes of Hand of the Draper, payable in that Term, for the Use of the Clothier, on Penalty of forfeiting Double the Value of the Debt; and in Case the Draper refused to give such Notes, so demanded, fining him 20 *s.*

^r Ch. 78.
§. 1. Note.

15. For

5. For a little while, this Act had its desired Effect; Notes were immediately returned to the Clothier, carried them to Market for Wool, &c. and by that means, made them answer in Trade almost as well as in itself. The Factors thus stripped of the most valuable Part of their Business, immediately concerted such Measures as rendered the whole Act ineffectual, and put their Power to tyrannize over the Clothiers as much as ever. This was done, by tampering with those of the Trade, whose Circumstances were most precarious, who were seduced by the Promise of a speedy Sale for their Goods, and to those of any other Maker, were easily prevailed on to forgo the Advantage of the Notes granted them by Parliament. This fatal Precedent being once set, the Factors instantly exacted a like Compliance from all the Trade; and if any refused, not one Piece of their Cloth sold. By which Means, being obliged to keep their Workmen employed in the Interval, their whole Stock, though ever so large, was exhausted; and the more Stock they had, the more it became their Interest to truckle to their old Oppressors, and again take off their Wool on the same Terms they pleased.

6. This important Point carried, like true Politicians, they resolved to pursue their Blow, and add some Acquisitions to what they possessed before. Accordingly, they again allowed the Drapers such unreasonable Terms, that it was impossible for the most substantial Clothier to carry on the Trade, while the Returns were so low and precarious. On an universal Complaint before of this Grievance, they graciously condescended to settle the Debt to be paid, twelve Months after it was contracted; but in Return of so great a Favour, insisted on two and a Half *per Cent.* as a Reward; and if any were so rash or stubborn enough to disrelieve or oppose this Imposition, he had the Mortification to wait six Months longer for his Money, that is to say, a Year and a Half in all; which together with the three Months Cloth is in making, and three that (one Piece with another) it continues in the Hall, before it is sold off, make two Years in the whole. Now let any one judge how large a Stock is absolutely necessary to carry on a Trade, under all these Disadvantages, particularly when recollected, that the Clothier is obliged to pay his

Workmen ready Money all this while, whether his Goods are vended or no; and that the modest Factor always insists on his being paid for his Wool, with the first Money he receives for the Cloth.

17. Neither is even this all. — But if the Clothier, hard drove by so vast and so continued a Charge, should be compelled, as too many are, to draw upon the Factor for Money before 'tis due, according to their Calculation; one Misfortune makes Way for another; and he must pay an extravagant Premium for the Advance, probably, of his own Money. Nor are you to wonder, Sir, that these worthy Gentlemen are so sollicitious to monopolize the whole Market of *Spanish Wool*; since, on a Medium, they get four Pounds on every Pack. Now a considerable Clothier may be supposed to work up 80 Packs a Year; which is in a manner a Rent Charge of 320 *l.* to the Factor annually; for 'tis more than probable, that this very Wool is purchased with the Clothiers Cash; and while the Factor grows rich without any Risk, and with very little Trouble; the Clothier is doubly Excised, both for what he receives, and what is not only with-held, but employed so manifestly to his Prejudice.

18. 'Tis farther to be observed, that as by far the greatest Part of a Clothiers Stock must of Necessity be lodged in the Factors Hands, if he (the Clothier) happens to break, or die insolvent (as in Spite of a whole Life of Toil and Industry, many of them do) the Factor immediately seizes on the Whole; it being (says he) a *Pledge for Money advanced, Wool sold, &c.* So that the rest of the Creditors seldom receive a Farthing, while he to whom the poor Man's Calamity is principally owing, runs away with all.

19. Besides these capital Grievances, there are several others, which tho' inferior in Degree, are, when added together, no small Increase of the Load; such as the Factors lumping the Charges for Warehouse-room in the Hall, Portage, Pressing, Packing, &c. every Article of which ought to be particular; as likewise sending out Cloths to the Drapers at the Expence of the Clothier, not for Sale; but one would be almost tempted to think, to supply the Shops with the Paper and Packthread they are secured with; since they are returned stripp'd of both, tumbled from End to End, exposed to all Weather and Accidents,

Accidents, and in such a Condition as renders it absolutely necessary to have them cleaned, pressed, and packed anew. And all this, after they have been out of the Hall six or eight Weeks; tho' the above quoted Act of Parliament provides, that every Cloth shall be reputed sold, after it hath been detained eight Days.

20. One would think, Sir, I had already mentioned Grievances enough, not only to justify the Clothier, but to excite the Concern of the whole People in their Favour, and the Aid of the Legislature in their Redress. But there is yet another behind, which ought not to be omitted. 'Tis this—These worthy Factors, not content with all these various Methods of Oppression; to crown the Whole, often set up People to act as Master Clothiers, on their Stock, during any little Glut of Business; and as 'tis easy to imagine, give all the Cloth so made, the Preference of the Market, though perhaps in all Respects, least deserving of it: Hence, those that trade on their own Bottoms, and employ the Poor in good and bad Times alike, are liable to all the Disadvantages of the one, with little or no Share in the Benefits of the other. And hence, more People are admitted into Trade, than the Trade can possibly maintain; which opens a new Door to the Tumults and Riots so lately felt.

21. Now, Sir, I say again, let the Publick judge whether this miserable State of the Clothiers deserves Pity or Blame; whether the Distresses of the industrious Poor are to be placed to their Account; and in one word, whether 'tis their Fault that our Woolen Goods come dearer to Market than those of other Nations. Sure I am, I have heard many of them say, that if the Legislature would deliver them from this insupportable Yoke, they would oblige themselves both to increase their Wages, and lower the Price of their Goods. And why the Interest of these useless Drones in the human Hive, should interfere with two such great and national Advantages, is beyond my Wit or Judgment to resolve. I hope however, on this plain and unaffected Representation of the Case, and at a Time, when the whole Manufacture of *Great Britain*, is like to come under the Consideration of Parliament, that some Patriot will arise to do Justice to the Oppressor and the oppressed.

C H A P.

C H A P. CXXXIX.

The late Improvements in Trade, Navigation, and Manufactures considered, &c. 1739.*

1. **I**F we compare the present State of our Trade with what it was about twenty Years ago, it will be found, that far from having Reason of Complaint, we ought to exult. The Increase of our Trade and Industry is as visible, as the Increase of our Wealth, in Consequence of them, is certain and undoubted.

2. Before the Year 1718, our foreign Trade was chiefly confined to *London, Bristol, and Liverpool*; but 'tis now become so general, that not one Sea Port, and scarce an Inland Town in the Kingdom, is without *Adventurers*, who export considerably, and correspond directly with most of the trading Countries of *Europe* and *America*.

3. The Number of *Adventurers* is not only increased in the Out Ports, and Inland Towns, where such were never heard of till of late, but likewise in the three principal Marts mentioned before. In *London* alone, I will take upon me to say, that the Number of *Adventurers* is trebled within these twenty Years; and if I am rightly informed, 'tis the same at *Bristol* and *Liverpool*. The Number of our Natives and Agents abroad, of our trading Ships and Tunnage, bears a just Proportion to the Increase of our *Adventurers*. And as an Increase of *Seamen* is the natural Consequence of an Increase of Shipping, there is little Room for doubting that we have at this Time one Third more Sailors than we had in 1718. The same may be said as to Shipwrights, and other Artizans dependant upon Navigation. The necessary Consequences of so happy and visible an Increase of *Adventurers*, Shipping, and *Seamen*, is an Increase of Commerce,

* We have had for some Time, in several of the foregoing Chapters, an extraordinary Run of Complaints, in Regard to Trade in general, particularly foreign Trade; and more especially concerning that Part of it, the *Woolen Exports* from *England*. But in this Chapter, we shall hear another Story, in every Respect.

merce, which must as naturally produce an Increase of Manufactures, as an Increase of both must necessarily increase the national Wealth.

4. But to obviate the mistaken Notions of the *depend- ing*, who think that our Manufactures are lessened, because some Manufacturers mutiny for an Increase of Wages, and therefore are unemployed: Let it be observed, That the Number of Manufacturers is equal, if not beyond the aforesaid proportioned Increase of Merchants, Shipping and Seamen. This being considered, it won't be admired, that the Wages of Manufacturerers should lessen, as the Wages of Seamen have, before the late Call for the latter, to man the Royal Navy. I must add, on this Occasion, that it were to be wished the Price of Labour could be lowered, beyond what we see it; as the Cheapness of Labour is the only Advantage which the *French* and other industrious Nations have over us. And here let me add, that nothing but the Luxury of our working People could prevent our being able to underfell our Rivals, considering the Advantage we have of them in Plenty and Cheapness of Provisions, every where, but near the Metropolis.

5. 'Tis true, that some of our ancient Manufactures are lessened, and some quite disused; but 'tis equally true, that there is a very considerable Increase of some Manufactures, and that others are invented within these twenty Years. For Instance, the Manufacture of what the Clothier calls *Spanish Cloth*, worth from 5 s. to 8 s. *per* Yard, is greatly lessened, if not quite disused; but the Manufacture from 2 s. 6 d. to 4 s. *per* Yard, of Kerfies, Welch Plains, Druggets, Sagathies, *German Serge*, Stoc- kins, Hats, Camblets and Stuffs, of various Kinds, is augmented far beyond what it was, when *Spanish Cloth* was call'd for from abroad.

6. The Adventurer must accommodate himself to the Taste of the Nations he deals with. As that changes, he must vary his Orders to the Manufacturer; to which this last must conform, or become idle and unhappy. From hence it arises, that some Manufactures are lessened, some disused, whilst others are increased, and many invented. But to argue from the Decrease or Disuse of certain Manufactures, that there is a Decrease of our Woolen Manufactures in general, would be as absurd, as to

to say, that such an extraordinary Increase of our Merchants, Seamen, and Shipping, as has been mentioned, was no Indication of an Increase of our Trade and Riches.

7. Another Proof in Favour of an Increase of our Woolen Manufacture, is, that we have no Quantities of raw Wool lying on Hand, from one Year to the next; tho' it be certain, that we grow one Third more Wool now, than we did twenty Years ago. The great and surprizing Improvement of our Lands throughout the whole Kingdom, during that Period of Time, is the happy Cause of the aforesaid Increase of our Wool: And that these Improvements and the consequential Increase of Cattle of all Kinds, is one Proof of the Increase of our national Wealth, I think, won't bear being controverted.

8. Many other Manufactures, besides the Woolen, and particularly those of Silk, Iron, Brass, and other *Metals*, have been immensely increased within these last twenty Years. Before that Time, we were obliged to *Holland and Italy* for all, or most of our wrought Silks: But the Case is now so altered, that we not only work more elegantly than they, but are able to export of this Manufacture, besides furnishing for our own Consumption.

9. As for our Manufacture of Iron, Brass, Copper, Gold and Silver, and other Metals of late Invention, 'tis brought to that Perfection, and so generally esteemed abroad, that there is scarce a Retailer in the known World, that has not a constant Supply of it for the Use of his Customers. 'Tis incredible what large Quantities of this Manufacture are annually exported. I have known it computed by some of our most intelligent Adventurers, at some *hundred thousands* of Pounds; and yet five and twenty Years ago, 'twas scarce known abroad, and hardly accounted a Commodity for Exportation.

10. There is another Manufacture sprung up; at least, wonderfully improved within these twenty Years; which though it be not immediately of *English* Growth, is not less beneficial to us than that of *Metals*: This is that of *Linen and Sail Cloth*, so happily improved in *Scotland and Ireland*, that it is valued at no less than 700,000 *l.* Though Improvements in any Part of the King's Do-
minions

minions may be looked upon as an Addition to the Wealth of this Nation; yet as the Produce of all or most of it, viz. Of the Linen of *Scotland* and *Ireland*, centers in this *Metropolis*, it may be said to be an Improvement that regards us immediately. This happy Improvement of the Linen Manufacture, and those lately established here, of Paper, Threads, Tapes, and many other minute Articles, have lessened our Importations from *Holland* and *Germany* considerably, every Year.

11. The Manufacture of *Cotton* mixed and plain, is arrived to so great Perfection, within these twenty Years, that we not only make enough for our own Consumption, but supply our Colonies, and many of the Nations of *Europe*. The Benefits arising from this Branch are such, as to enable the Manufacturers of *Manchester* alone to lay out above *thirty thousand Pounds* a Year, for many Years past, on additional Buildings: 'Tis computed that *two Thousand* new Houses have been built in that industrious Town, within these twenty Years.

12. The Exportation of all our native Commodities, natural and improved, has increased within these last twenty Years, in Proportion to the Increase of our Navigation. It has been objected, that this Increase of our *Exports* bears no Proportion to that of our Imports of many Articles that administer to Luxury; such as Wines, Fruits, &c. 'Tis admitted, that our Import of Wine, though not of Fruit is increased; but I deny that 'tis increased in Proportion to the Increase of our *Exports*; and if it were, there are two other beneficial Articles, the Appendages of Trade and Navigation, not yet mentioned, which more than compensate for any Increase of our luxurious Imports. These are the Benefits arising from *Insurances* made here for Account of *Foreigners*, and from *Freights*, as being for many Years, the Sea Carriers of most of the trading Nations of the Continent.

13. If further Proof should be required of the Increase of our Manufactures *, Exports and Navigation, and the

* This Representation, at the Time when it was first published †, passed with many, for a Piece of State Flattery, † *In the* or as a ministerial Puff; and it was undoubtedly intended *Daily Ga-* to do Honour to the Administration, of that Period; as such, *zetteer*, wanted for no proper Embellishments. But (which is more

the Wealth accruing from our Trade, for twenty Years past; let the doubtful recur to that infallible Test, the Increase of the National Stock; this will prove it beyond Contradiction. The Increase of this Stock in every Thing that can constitute *National Wealth*, is so visible, that they who would contest it; must be blind and insensible, or obstinate and perverse to an Insatiation. The Reduction of *Interest*, and the present, and late settled State of *Credit*, are other Proofs, and the strongest, of the Increase and Advantage of our Trade and Navigation.

C H A P.

to the Credit of the Author, and of the Times and Persons he meant to praise) the single Point, which from the *Price of Wool* at that Time, seemed to be a mere Paradox, was indeed most eminently true. For, notwithstanding the Complaints which were then so loudly echoed throughout the Kingdom, that the *English Woolen Trade* was wholly decayed, it has since turned out, by Custom-House Accounts, exhibited to Parliament, *Anno* 1745, that the *English Woolen Exports* never had been, I will not say greater, for that they never had; but seldom, if ever, any Thing near so great, as in that Period, the Year 1737—8 particularly. What shall we say then for those confident Complaints in that very Year (Chap. 132. especially) of the *sinking State of the Woolen Exportation Trade*—for the remarkable low Price of Wool, at that particular Juncture, and the Effrontery of the Clothiers (Chap. 138) when combined, under the same Plea of a *decayed foreign Trade*, for reducing their Workmens Wages? I am here strongly reminded of an Observation we have met with in a former Chapter, viz.

‘ *There is that general Malignity in Commerce, that the rich Buyer does set the Dice upon the necessitous Seller; as in the most plentiful Years of Corn, the Ingrosser never thinks the Market low enough.*

Ch. 59.

§. 7.

C H A P. CXL.

*Observations on British Wool, and the Manufacturing of it in this Kingdom; with Remarks on the Wool and Woollen Manufactures of France, Flanders, and Holland: By a * Woollen Manufacturer of Northamptonshire, 1739.*

1. **O**UR long combing Wool is the Sort of Wool Page 2.
our Rivals covet most. I know that it is generally believed, that the making of *Cloth* abroad of our Wool, is that which destroys our Woollen Trade: But that is a Mistake. The Wool of *France* is for the most Part Page 3.
Part very coarse, and short in general, not above three or four Inches long, and of a harsh sower Nature; and great Part of it hath a Stichel Hair in it, like some of our Wool that is of the Growth of *Norfolk, Suffolk, &c.* and in some Parts of the North of *England*. This *The Stichel*
Stichel Hair is of a bright shining Colour, not like the Hair in other Wool that grows along with it on the same Sheep, *Wool*.
it being more like Dogs Hair; this Hair will not twist in *The Na-*
along with the other Hair when it is spun, but continues *ture and*
to stare out, make it into what Goods they will: Nei- *Properties*
ther will it dye into any proper Colour; but still will of it.
continue of a whitish Colour.

2. There is a little long Wool that is growed in *North Holland* and *Louvaine* in *Flanders*; but this is not fine, like the Wool of *England* and *Ireland*; the *French* Wool is pretty much like the *Flemish* and *Holland* Wool; but the combing Wool of *England* and *Ireland* is fine and long, free from this Stichel Hair, and the natural Strength of it makes it valuable, as well as the Softness and Fineness of it; and the Manufactures of *Stuffs* and *Stockings* made thereof, are preferable for Goodness and Beauty,
to

* Compare this Account of *French Wool* with Ch. 89. §. 17. and then judge of the Advantage to be made by mixing fine *English* with these Stichel haired *French Wools*.

to any Goods that they can make of their own Wool, either in *France, Flanders, or Holland*. Even as our Stuffs of the finest Quality, that are made of the best and finest Wool, surpass the Goods that are made of the coarsest Wool.

3. The Wool of *Warwickshire, Northamptonshire, Lincolnshire, and Rutland*, with some Parts of *Huntingdon, Bedford, Buckinghamshire, and Cambridgeshire*, and *Rumney Marsh*, with some Parts of *Norfolk*, have been accounted the longest and finest combing Wool. But of late Years, there have been Improvements made in the Breed of Sheep, by changing of Rams, and sowing of Turneps, Grass Seeds, &c. and now there is some large fine combing Wool to be found in most Counties in *England**, which is fine, long, and soft, fit to make all Sorts of fine Stuff and Hose of.

Page 5. 4. This long combing Wool, is either used alone in Stuffs, Stockins, &c. or mixed with carding Wool, wherein the former is the Chain or Warp, and the latter, the Woof or Shoot; as in Bays, Serge, Druggets, Perpetuanoes, &c. or with Silk, Mohair, or Cotton, such as Crape, Druggets, Plush, &c. But none † of these Goods can Foreigners make with their own Wool only, fit for a foreign Market; but when mixed with the Wool of *Great Britain and Ireland*, then they are enabled to do it. This makes Foreigners covet our Wool; hence is the Temptation to *Owling*; by which Means we lessen the Demands for our Woolen Goods, in those Countries where they are now made, which formerly were served by us, and must again, if we can be so good to ourselves, as to keep our Wool at home. Nay, we not only lose the serving of them, but by giving them our Wool, we put them into a Condition to furnish the very Markets to which we send our Woolen Goods.

5. It

* And may not some other Countries, think we, be capable of equal Improvements by the like Means?

† What! Foreigners make no Bays, Serges, Druggets, Perpetuanoes, without a Mixture of *British* or *Irish* Wool? We read to the contrary in the *Dictionnaire Universel du Commerce*. See (Chap. 151) Serges, of *French* Wool, very fine, See (Chap. 156. §. 14, 15, 16.) Perpetuanas (§. 17.) Bays (§. 19.) Crape (§. 21.)

Ch. 140. *Memoirs of Wool, &c.* 321

5. It is not above seventy Years, since *France* began to Page 7.
make Cloth *. Before, we used to send large Quantities of Woolen Goods thither. But since the clandestine Exportation of our Wool hath been carried on so vigorously to that Country, the *French King* hath prohibited all our Manufactures, and they are so far increased in *France*, that they send vast Quantities of Stuffs, Stockins, &c. to *Spain, Portugal, Italy, &c.* But this Prohibition of the *French* would do us no harm, if we could be so wise and good to ourselves, to keep our Wool at home, and manufacture it ourselves.

6. *Hamberough, Holland, Flanders, France, &c.* are able to manufacture divers Sorts of Stuffs and Stockins; which makes our Manufactures a Drug in those Parts; the *Dutch and Flemings* buying of us only what is wanted to make up proper Assortments; the Foreigners not yet making all Sorts so neat as we do. But if they continue to have our Wool; in a few Years, they will be able to make as well as we do. It is not long, since the *Hollanders* came to be supplied with Woolen Goods, from some Part of the *German Dominions*, which are made with our Wool †, and are made near as good as our Stuffs. In the short Space of a few Years, the Woolen Manufactories of the *Low Countries*, and some Parts of *Germany, &c.* are so improved and increased, by the Help of our Wool, that *Holland* is chiefly served from them Page 9.

* It is now about 80 Years, since the *French* set up certain Woolen Manufacturies, under the Cover of Letters Patents, with Charters exclusive, for fine Cloth of *Spanish Wool*. But what is that to the Business of *British Wool*? The *French* were Makers of common Cloth and other Drapery, long before this. For Instance, in * 1511, they sent * Ch. 39.
into the Dominions of the Emperor *Maximilian* in the *Low* §. 13. *Notes*,
Countries, as much in Value, of Woolens, as the *English*
and *Scotch* both together did. More than that, we find that
fine Cloth, of *Spanish Wool*, was a Manufacture in *France*, † Ch. 12.
before the Year 1603. §. 15. *Notes*.

† A very unlikely Story this; altho' it may be true that the *Hollanders* are supplied, from some Parts of *Germany*, with *English-like* Goods, not only near, but full as good, as if they had been made of *English Wool*. (See Chap. 101. §. 2. Ch. 153. §. 1. Ch. 168. §. 2—5.)

them with these Sorts of Goods, which they mix with a few they buy from *England*, and then they call them all *English* * Goods, because *English* Woolen Manufactures have had the Vogue and Name for many Years past.

Page 10, 11. 7. Thirty of our best Artificers have lately gone to *Denmark*. The Manufacture begun at *Altena*, near *Hamburg*, about six Years ago, by one *John Hudson* from *Yorkshire*, has now above one hundred Looms in it, for Stuffs, Stockins, narrow Goods, &c.

Page 19. 8. At *Abbeville* is a large Manufactory, of fine Broad Cloths, in which is used no Wool but *Spanish*. The Looms are 108. It is carried on by three Partners, Nephews to old *Van Robais*, who first begun it. They live in as much Grandeur as any Peers in *France*. But tho' there is none of our Wool used in this Fabrick, there is too much used in the Town of *Abbeville*. I believe there is above 1000 Looms going in this Town on Paragons, besides a great many employed in Druggets, Serge, Cloth Serge, &c. Those Goods are chiefly sent to *Spain*, *Portugal*, and *Italy*, and sold for *English* Goods.

Page 21. 9. There is another pretty large Manufactory carried on in this Town by four Partners, with good Success. They make Serge Royals, Druggets, Shalloons, Cloth Serge, mostly with *Irish* and *English* Wool. As near as Page 23. I could learn, there are about 300 Wool Combers in this Town; and a great deal of Wool, combed here, is sent to *Amiens*; at which Place is made a great many Silks and Stuffs in Imitation of those at *Norwich*. Those Goods

* This is true, or it is not; if it is, could the giving of a Name to Goods, so far impose upon People, that they should not discern a Difference, if it was material? But if there is no material Difference between Goods, really *English*, and those which are only so called, to what Purpose serveth all this, but to shew that the Writer is a Well-wisher to a *Lye* that has been often told, altho' he cannot support it? He says indeed, that all this is effected, i. e. these Goods are packed off, for *English*, chiefly in virtue of a small Mixture of *English* Wool. But I think he has said enough of the Properties of the *Stichel Hair* in foreign Wool, to destroy the whole Credit of his Doctrine about the great Advantages of mixing fine *English*, with such coarse foreign Wools.

Goods are generally mixed with our Wool; but the finer Page 24.
Sort made of all *English* or *Irish* Wool, mixed with Silk,
Mohair, &c.

10. At *Montdidre* in *Picardy*, within these two Years,
a Factory set up; and yet they could not carry on
their old ones, if they were not furnished with *English*
and *Irish* Wool.

11. At *St. Omers* is a Manufactory of Cloth, increased Page 25;
within these seven Years, double what it was before.
There are 350 Looms, besides Stockin Frames. They
make Hose very good, some of all * our Wool, some
are mixed with about half their own. In the making of
their Duroys, Sagathies, Druggets and Serges, they mix
about one third of our Wool, and two thirds of their
own, and make their Goods much stronger and heavier
than we do ours in the same Kind. Their fine Cloth
is all *Spanish* Wool. The second is about half *English*,
and half their own Wool; the coarse is made of all their
own Wool, and worn by the Poor of their Neighbour-
hood.

12. At *Lisle* they make some broad and narrow Cloths, Page 26;
and a few Druggets, but vast Quantities of Stuffs and
Stockins. There are near 1000 Looms employed in
making Camblets; some Ell wide, some three Quarters;
all made of *English* or *Irish* Wool; and a much greater
Number with mixed Wool, in making the same Sort of
Goods. Besides, a great many hundred Looms are em-
ployed in making Callimancoes and several Sorts of Worsted
Stuffs. They comb a great deal of Wool in this Town;
but send more to *St. Paul* and *Fruges*; where it is comb- Page 27:
ed, spun, doubled, and twisted for them. One Madam
Disabbes *, a great Manufacturer at *Lisle*, told me, that §. 16.
in all Callimancoes and Camblets, they use more or Note.
less

* This single Instance ^b (which will be confirmed by ^c See also
other Testimonies) is sufficient to overturn all that is said §. 14.
touching the great Advantages to be made from *English*
Wool, by mixing it with *French* particularly: Because was
that true, the *French* would be more than mad Men, to
work up any *English* Wool alone; in doing which, they
could have but the single Benefit of their Labour; whereas
by working it up, mixed with their own, the Benefit would
be more than treble to that of common Labour.

less *English* Wool, and could not do without our Wool †.

Page 30, 31. 13. *Turcoin* is well stored with Woollen Manufactory; many thousand Hands there, are employed in combing, spinning, &c.; and the greatest Part of the Wool wrought up there, is either *Irish* or *English*, brought by the Way of *Holland*. I was told by the riding General of the Customs of this Town, that there is fourteen Persons there, that make Wool Combs, tho' I suppose they do not wholly depend on that particular Branch of Business; if they did, there must be a vast Number of Wool Combers in that Neighbourhood; for there is but two Wool-comb Makers in this great City of *London*.

Page 22. 14. At *Roubaix*, four or five Miles from *Turcoin*, and at *Lanay*, four Miles from *Roubaix*, they employ many hundreds of Hands in making fine Callimancoes, Camblets, &c. the finest, all of *English* or *Irish* Wool; a great Number mixed with our Wool and theirs. I have named but three Towns; but the whole Country (like the West of *England*) abounds with Combers, Spinners, Weavers, &c. and these all well clothed, and their Families. And as the Case stands at present, it is my Opinion, that the *French* have all the Wool they have Occasion of, from us, for nothing; that is, they pay the Owlers for it with Wines, Teas, Brandies, &c.

Page 34. 15. *Tournay* has a small Manufacture of Silk and Worsted Stuffs, and Stockins made of *English* or *Irish* Wool. At *Bridges* is a great Manufactory of broad Seys; some few made of all their own Wool, but many more of our Wool, and their own, mixed. I was told by one that was twenty-five Years in the Sey-making Trade, he had his Wool drawn through the Comb in *England*; and that it came to him from *London*; and he said *so long as he could find Money, he never should want English Wool*.

16. At

† *Move or less, &c.* I should be glad to see this *Northamptonshire Woollen Manufacturer* explain himself touching this Sentence, so as to answer the Purpose of his Argument, and satisfy any one who will give himself the Trouble of consulting, for a single Moment, his own Reason and Senses.

Ch. 140. *Memoirs of Wool, &c.* 325

16. At *Liege* are made several Sorts of Stuffs, but Page 43. principally *Seys* and *Shalloons*, which are sent white to *Holland*; and in Return, they take some of our *English* long fine Wool, to make their Warp for their fine *Seys* and *Shalloons*. But the chief Assortment is a middling *Shalloon*, heavier than ours, of the same Quality; which makes the *Hollanders* and *Flemings* chuse them before ours. At *Antwerp*, a few fine Hosi and Stuffs are made Part of *English*, Part of their own Country Wool. At *Middleborough* in *Zealand*, *English* Wool ready combed, and *English* Worsted and Yarn are prohibited Goods, liable to be confiscated*; though sometimes they got Wool from *Scotland* in the Fleece, as I was there informed.

17. At *Leyden*, is made a great deal of Broad Cloth, all with *Spanish* Wool, also some Drabs, mixed with some of ours, and some *Spanish* Wool. About thirty Years ago, they had upwards of nine hundred Looms; and now there is but four hundred. But the Mer- Page 55. chants of this Place employ six hundred Broad Looms at *Tilborough*; so that upon the Whole, they have increased their Trade about one Tenth more than it was, thirty Years ago. The *Hollanders* purchase Wool from *Spain*, *Portugal*, *England*, *Germany*, *Hamborough*, and several other Places; and being very curious Sorters, they take Care to do it well; and when so done, they send not only Worsted, but some of the Wool to *Germany*, and several other Places that they buy Wool from themselves. But the *English* and *Irish* Wool is the Support of all

* Can it be imagined, that *English* Wool is so great a Jewel to all the manufacturing World besides; and yet that its being spun, or so much as combed, should so far change its Nature, and make it so very obnoxious to any Place, as to render it confiscated? For what tho' the Province of *Zealand* has, besides good Wool of its own, many Combers and Spinners employed? don't the *Dutch* avoid, more than any People, Prohibitions of all Kinds? and don't they know how to make Merchandize of whatever is marketable? And therefore is not the Truth of this Article to be doubted? and does it not bring, if not the Author's Veracity, yet his Knowledge and Judgment both into Question? might not *Madam Disobbes* impose upon and banter him? §. 12.

326 *Memoirs of Wool, &c. Ch.*

all the Wool † they buy for combing; that being a fine, full, long, strong, Staple, and is fit for mixing other Wool, such as *German, French, Flemish, and Land Wool*.

Page 52. 18. Many Towns in *England* might be named, the Trade is in a manner lost. But some may say Trade has only shifted from one Part to another

Page 53. Kingdom. This is not the Case; but it is returnair to *France and Flanders*. Our Trade, in several tant Branches, is considerably decreased. This is to Wool run from *England and Ireland*. And every Land-holder finds the Inconvenience thereof, by the present low Price of Wool*. Of which we may be convinced by a plain Matter of Fact, namely, the *present State of Trade*, the *high Price of Wool*, and *Wool* the Poor too, which we found to be the Effect of the Plague at *Marseilles*. Our Wool was then, one Third more in Value, than it is now; we had a current Demand for all the Goods we manufactured, notwithstanding the foreign Demand for Wool ceased, and *Wool and Yarn of Ireland* was brought to us, because could not be run abroad. From hence it's evident could work up and sell the Woolen Produce of Kingdoms, if the foreign Markets were not stocked with Goods manufactured by our Neighbours; which

† *The Support of all the Wool, &c.* Another expression, which wants to be cleared up, for the Satisfaction of any Person, who considers at all, and is not endued with a *Roman Faith*.

* This was true with a Witness: Wool was sold at that Time, for less Silver than was called the ancient Price in 1581, and for less Silver by one third at least, actually did sell for, in that Year 1581. (See Chap. P. 8.)

† Had our Author stopp'd here, he had said nothing of the Truth, in Regard to the Price of Wool; which was one third more at the Time of the Plague breaking out at *Marseilles*, than in this Year 1739. But whereas he adds that this was an Advance occasioned by that Incident, the Addition is a direct Falsehood; for Wool did not advance at that Time; but, on the contrary, it fell; and did so probably, *because*, as he says, all, or however a small Share than usual, of the Wool and Yarn of *Ireland* was brought to *England*. (See Chap. 174.)

Calamity prevented in *France*; and at that Time, the Manufactures of *Flanders, &c.* was not come to any Maturity.

19. Such a plain evident Fact as this, must convince every impartial Person, that if our Wool could be effectually secured to ourselves, the Price of it *must* rise, as it's certain it *did*, when the Demand for it was stopped by the aforesaid Occurrence.

20. It has been imagined by some, that the prohibiting Page 57.
the Wear of Callicoes about the same Time, occasioned this prosperous Juncture of the Woolen Trade; but this will appear to be only Imagination, if we consider two Circumstances; the one is, that no sooner were Callicoes out of Use in *England*, but they were immediately sent to our foreign Plantations, and many other Places, where our Woolen Goods had been formerly wore; so that we sent Callicoes instead of Woolen Good abroad, though we wore, for a little while, Callicoes instead of Woolen Goods at home. We were far from gaining any Advantage to the Woolen Trade thereby. The other Circumstance is; had the Prohibition of Callicoes influenced the Demand, it would have been confined to such Stuffs as are peculiar to the Womens Wear; whereas the Demand was universal, for Stuffs, Cloth, Hose, and all Sorts of Woolen Goods; which indeed proves we are undermined by Foreigners in every Branch of our Manufacture; which could never be hurt, had we but some effectual Method found out to keep our Wool from them.

21. The Case above also proves, it is not the Yarn or Wool from *Ireland* can hurt * us, if we secure them from

* The Case truly stated, proves, contrary to the Assertion of this Writer, that the Wool and Yarn of *Ireland* did, at this very Period (1720—24) 'hurt the Price of *English* Wool and Yarn in *England*. And there is all imaginable Reason to think, that on this very Account it was, namely, for the Sake of keeping down the Price of *English* Wool and Yarn (for surely they could not but think them, the former especially, low enough at this Time) that the Manufacturers were so very solicitous to carry a Bill, for taking off the Duty on *Irish* Yarn imported; in which they succeeded, before the Conclusion of this Year 1739; a Point that had been laboured P. S.

from our Neighbours; 'tis the Exportation thereof that lowers the Price here; for every Pack they obtain from us, in common, works up two of their own. So that suppose a Pack of Wool makes ten Pieces in *England*, these ten Pieces are sent to the Market abroad. But if Foreigners get this Pack of Wool; by mixing it with two of their own, it produces thirty Pieces in the same Markets; this glut the Markets abroad, and sinks the Price of Wool at home, and nothing else.

C H A P.

^b See

Ch. 125.

§. 7. Note.

Ch. 126.

§. 3. Note.

§. 13, 16.

Note.

Ch. 127.

§. 20, 21.

Ch. 131.

§. 10.

Ch. 133.

§. 9.

boured almost incessantly^b, for near ten Years together; and a Thing highly reasonable, upon certain proper Terms, altho' the Arguments that had been commonly urged for the same, were altogether fallacious.

Upon the Whole, tho' this Writer has given us a View, and that but an imperfect one, of only a small Part of the *French* Woolen Manufacturies; yet there is Reason enough to conclude from his Account of the same, and of the several Woolen Manufacturies he has mentioned, of *Flanders* and *Holland*, that either the Prohibition on *English* and *Irish* Wool is not so necessary, as is commonly imagined, or else that it does not at all answer the pretended Purpose, of confining the Wool of *England* and *Ireland*. If the many large Manufacturies here mentioned, are carried on chiefly by foreign Wool; in that Case it is plain, that the Wool of *England* and *Ireland* is not such a *Rarity* as many have represented it to be.—BUT, if these MANY and LARGE Manufacturies are upheld by *English* and *Irish* Wool, 'tis plain that the Prohibition is to no Effect, and that by not preferring to such Prohibition a competent Duty on Wool exported, a considerable Revenue at least, is lost to the Public.

I for my Part, am persuaded, that there is neither *that Occasion* for an absolute Prohibition in this Case; which is commonly alledged, nor *that Effect* from it which is intended. I believe, that the Runnage of Wool from *England* and *Ireland* is not inconsiderable in itself, but very much so, in respect of the many very large Woolen Manufacturies mentioned by this Writer; and yet vastly more, in regard of the still more and greater Manufacturies in the Southern Parts of *France*; an Account^c whereof will occur in these Memoirs; and where no *English* Wool is suspected, or so much as pretended to come. And particularly, I cannot think that the 14 Wool-comb Makers at *Turcoin*^d (which are 12 more than in the City of *London*) would want Employment, if no *English* or *Irish* Wool escaped to *Flanders*.

^c Ch. 151,
—166.

^d §. 13.

C H A P. CXLI.

A short Account of the State of our Woolen Manufactures from the Peace of Ryswick (1697) to this Time (1739) their former flourishing, and their present ruinous Condition; shewing, that they always flourished when FRANCE could not get OUR WOOL, but declined in Proportion to the Quantities of OUR WOOL exported;

To which is added,

An effectual SCHEME to prevent the Exportation of OUR WOOL, by an Universal Register. London: Printed 1739.

Dedicated to the Lord Mayor and Aldermen of London: By Samuel Webber.

My Lord and Gentlemen,

1. **T**HE Exportation of our Wool to *France* is the *Dedica.* chief Cause of our Weakness, and their Strength: p. 4—5. An effectual Remedy for this fatal Evil has been often studied, but never before invented. I here offer you [*A Scheme*] which I may venture to call an effectual one, by the Help of which I undertake to bring, from Foreigners, into the Treasury, a Million yearly; and, into the Interest of *Land* and *Trade*, above seven Millions; so that the King and his Subjects have lost above sixty Millions; and *France* has gained twice as much, by my Schemes not being accepted, when I offered it near nine Years ago, recommended by the Hands of above 600,000 Traders. His Majesty, when I applied to him, was most graciously pleased to give Directions to the *Attorney General*, to Report or form a Charter; but an Act of Parliament being thought to be necessary, I have ever since

9. We had at this Time (1703) to ourselves, the cloathing of ALL THE KNOWN WORLD, except those with whom we were at War: Goods were demanded as fast as we could make them. We had OUR OWN PRICE for them; and Wool rose again from 9 and 11, to 12 and 14 *l.* a Pack.

10. I desire the Reader to bear one Thing in Mind all the Way, that not only the Demand for our Goods abroad was greatest; but the Price of them, and of *un-manufactured Wool* was highest, when the least Wool was exported unmanufactured.

LETTER III.

11. As I observed, the War which hindered the *French* from having any *Quantities of our Wool*, raised the Price of it at home, and increased the Demand from abroad, for our *manufactured Goods*; and the Demand continued for three or four Years, so that we had a Sale for ALL that we made; but then, about 1707, the Prices of our Goods sunk; and Wool was fallen, from twelve and fourteen, to nine and eleven Pounds a Pack. I could not immediately discern the Cause of this Fall, but soon found that by Means of *French Passes* to be had for 3 *l.* each, from an Agent, as I remember at *Edinburgh*, Merchants were fallen into a Method of carrying Wool plentifully to *France*; and which explained to me the Reason of its falling (in 1709) to 8 *l.* 10 *s.* and 9 *l.* a Pack.

12. By these Methods, as well as by Captures, the *French* got a Quantity of our Wool, to mix with their coarse Wool (not worth above 2 *l.* or 2 *l.* 10 *s.* a Pack.) So that they were able, at a cheaper Rate, to supply foreign Markets which used to buy our Goods. Thus stood the State of our Wool and Woolen Manufacturies, in *Great Britain*, about the Year 1712. And thus it continued to decline, 'till the Plague broke out in *France*; at which Time, Wool was fallen to 7 or 7 *l.* 10 *s.* a Pack.

13. From 1712, to this Period 1719, or thereabouts, besides the Wool exported *wholly unmanufactured*, Numbers, Thousands of Combers were employed (a great many of them I myself knew personally,) by the *Papists in Ireland*; which [combed Wool] they sent to *France*; and

and if any happened to be seized by inferior Officers, it was as constantly discharged, and suffered to go abroad. But the Plague above-mentioned, put a Stop to all Inter-courfe with *France*; during which Time, while they could get none of OUR WOOL, it rose from 7, and 7*l.* 10*s.* a Pack, to 11 and 12*l.* a Pack. Our Goods were again called for, as fast we could make them; and we sold them at WHATEVER PRICE we thought fit to set upon them. THESE are UNDENIABLE FACTS, and THESE FACTS UNDENIABLY SHEW, not only the TRUE Causes of the Decay of our Trade, but the CERTAIN Method by which it may be redeemed.

14. Thus have I brought down my short Narrative of the *Rise* and Fall of the Price of *Wool*; of the Growth and Decrease of the Woolen Trade, to the ceasing of the Plague. After the Plague was over, and Commerce with *France* renewed, our Wool sunk again from 11 and 12*l.* a Pack; and has since been gradually sinking, 'till it is now fallen to 4*l.* 10*s.* or 5*l.* a Pack. For Wool has been exported in much greater Quantities for several Years last past, chiefly occasioned by the Connivance or Neglect of Officers; and it is computed, that at this Time, *France* has of our Wool Yearly, 300,000 Packs; from which Computation I can demonstrate, that they get Yearly, while we lose Yearly the getting of 8,000,000*l.* But if, according to Calculations formerly made, *Great Britain* and *Ireland* produce Yearly 800,000 Packs of Wool, which I believe is true; then *France* has Yearly from us 500,000 Packs of Wool. What shews my Calculation to be right, is this; I suppose no Body imagines any of our Wool to be destroyed. What is not manufactured at home, is sold to Foreigners. There can be no more manufactured, than what is combed and scribbled and carded; but there are not now a third Part of the Number of Combers, Scribblers, and Carders, in *England* and *Ireland*, which we had in the Year 1698; and even that small Number has not full Employment. From hence judge of the present flourishing State of the Woolen Manufacturies of our Enemies the *French*, and of the Riches arising to them from their Trade. The deplorable Condition of our own Manufacturies, with the dreadful Consequences of their Decay,

a Pound (which is about the Value * of the Labour to manufacture it) and there remain chargeable till sold; and before the Property is altered, on Pain of to Buyer or Seller, to repair to the Register's Office of that Parish where bought, and register it to the Buyer's Account, with the same Duty, discharging the former Proprietor; and if altered out of the Parish, to take the Register's Permit: *And so from Hand to Hand, as bought and sold, 'till it is made appear that it is thoroughly manufactured, and then to be fully discharged. 3. All Felmongers to do in like manner †.

C H A P. CXLII.

Mr. Webber's Narrative examined.

MR. Webber, in his several Letters, of the foregoing Chapter, undertakes to give a History, from his own personal Knowledge, of the Price of Wool in England, and of the State of the English Woollen Trade, from the Peace of Ryswick (1697) to the Year 1739; and in order to be the more clear and circumstantial, has divided that Tract of Time into seven distinct Periods; 1. *At, or rather before the Peace of Ryswick.* 2. *From the Peace of Ryswick to the breaking out of the second French War (1702).* 3. *From 1702 to 1707.* 4. *From 1707 to 1712.* 5. *From 1712 to the breaking out of the Plague in France.* 6. *During the Time of the Plague there.* 7. *From the ceasing of the Plague in France to the Year 1739.*

From

* Will Mr. Webber, as a Manufacturer, say that this is any Thing near the Case upon a Medium? (See Ch. 132. §. 5. Note.)

† This is the Substance of Mr. Webber's Scheme of Registry; the rest is Form, or the Method of executing it; in which there seems to be no Thought taken concerning the proper Proof, from Time to Time, of Wool being thoroughly manufactured; which yet is the grand Point of all.

- From the supposed Occurrences of which several Periods, he has laid down one Maxim, as an invariable Truth :*
- “ Ch. 141. ‘ That ^a not only the Demand for *English* Goods abroad
 §. 10. ‘ were always greatest, but the Price of them, and of
 ‘ unmanufactured Wool were always highest, when the
 “ §. 15. ‘ least Wool was exported unmanufactured. That ^b the
 ‘ Price of Wool in *England* has constantly rose and fallen
 ‘ regularly, in Proportion to the Exports of our man-
 ‘ factured Goods.’

To prove the Truth of this Hypothesis, seemingly, in the most decisive Manner, he has fixed more particularly upon the Time when the Plague was in France, as a proper Criterion in this Case (and no Doubt it is so) and taking for granted what he has said of that Period, to be true; he has thence endeavoured to deduce, not only the general Expediency of prohibitory Laws, in regard to the Exportation of Wool, but (to render the same effectual) of his own Scheme, of an universal Registry in Charter.

AND, as in all Disquisitions relating to this Subject, much depends upon a due Knowledge of Facts; and but little Care has heretofore been taken to transmit any good Memoirs concerning the same: SO, tho’ this Narrative of Mr. Webber’s comprehends but the Space of a little more than forty Years; yet if his Accounts are formed with any Degree of Truth, his Country is indebted to him for them. To see therefore how well he has acquitted himself in that respect, I propose to examine his Narrative, according to the several Periods into which he has divided it, and to put his several Assertions to the Proof; whence it may be judged, whether he really formed his Hypothesis (as he says) upon his own Knowledge and Observation of the Facts by him alledged, or whether he invented those Facts, to serve a favourite Hypothesis of his own.

N U M B. I.

First Period, viz. At the Peace of Ryswick, i. e. (to make Sense of him) during the first French War.

1. Mr. Webber’s first Assertion. Little or no Wool was exported ⁱ.
- ⁱ See
 Ch. 141.
 §. 6, 7.
2. For Proof, The Reader may be pleased to turn back to certain Passages in this Collection, cotemporary with the Events here mentioned by Mr. Webber; and which

Ch. 142. *Memoirs of Wool, &c.* 337

which therefore may be looked upon as Evidence very fit to be confronted with his Testimony; altho' he undertakes to give the same, not from *others*, but of *his own Knowledge*.

3. The Statutes 1 *W.* and *M^c. c. 32.* for the better preventing the Exportation of *Wool*, recites, 'That former §. 3. *Note.* Laws in this Case had not been duly observed; but that great Quantities of *Wool* had been exported through Neglect of Officers, &c.'

4. Mr. *Coke*¹, 'Tho' the *French* had assisted the *Irish*¹ above three Years [after the Revolution] yet it may be a Question, whether they did not gain more by their Trade with *Ireland* for *Wools*, &c. than their Expence, for carrying on the War against the *English*, amounted to.

3. The Author of the Tract intitled, *The Linen and Woolen Manufactory discoursed* (1691^m) assigns for one^m Reason of a then supposed Decay in the *Woolen Trade* of *England*, 'the Increase of the *Woolen Manufacture* in neighbouring Countries, by the Help of *English* and *Irish Wool*,' and was of Opinion, that the Way to retrieve that Trade, would be, 'to prevent the Exportation of *Wool*;' which, though to that Time not effected, yet, he thought, might be done.

6. Another Author, in 1694ⁿ, 'The first Grievance, I humbly offer to Consideration, is, the Exportation of *Wool* to *France* and *Holland*; which Practice is so well known, that I need not spend Time to make any Discovery; whilst of 3000 Packs of long *Wool* supposed to grow annually in *Rumney Marsh*, it is credibly believed, that 2000 of them are carried into *France*.'

7. The Statute 7, 8 *Will. III. c. 28* viz. Anno 1695, for the more effectual preventing the Exportation of *Wool*, and for encouraging the Importation thereof from *Ireland*, recites, 'that notwithstanding former Laws, the Exportation of *Wool* was still continued.'

8. The Statute 9, 10 *Will. III. c. 40* viz. Anno 1697, (the Year of the Peace of *Ryfwick*) for the better Execution of former Acts made against Transportation of *Wool*, recites, 'that notwithstanding several Laws made to prevent the Exportation of *Wool*, yet nevertheless, the said Exportation was NOTORIOUSLY CONTINUED.'

Ch. 85. 9. A. D. 1698---99. Upon the Report of a Committee (Sir Rowland Gwyn Chairman) the Commons resolved, 'that a destructive clandestine Trade had been carried on, DURING THE WAR, and that the same Vessels which imported *Alamodes* and *Lutestrings*, exported GREAT QUANTITIES OF WOOL.'

Ch. 88. 10. 'During the late War', one *Roach* of *Yaugbal*, §. 7. brought nine Ships laden with WOOL, &c. into the Port of *Nantz*; at another Time, four Ships laden with Wool, &c. at the same Port.'

11. A. D. 1695, 1696. 'I had an Office that occasioned my being alternately on our South Coasts opposite to *France*, from *Kent* to *Cornwal*; and in all these Countries, tho' in Time of War, I found Plenty of *French* Wine and Brandies, &c. and was credibly informed that Wool paid for it; and I perceived that *French* Passes were easy to be had in Time of War.'

The pernicious Practice discovered, of selling Wool to Foreigners, &c. printed 1743. (p. 2.)

12. Mr. *Webber's* second Assertion. The Woolen Manufacturies were in a very flourishing Condition, Ch. 141. during this Period, of the first War with *France*'. § 2.

13. Proof: Dr. *Davenant*, in his *Essay on the East India Trade* (printed 1696---7) says, 'there happening Ch. 79. §. 13. 'of late a great Call for Woolen Manufactures, &c.'

14. 'The Interruption which the War brought to the Tillage, Labour and Manufactures of other Countries, produced a great Call from abroad for our Commodities.'

Davenant of the publick Revenues 1698. Part 1. pag. 220.

15. 'Not only now, but during the whole War, our Product and Manufactures have sold well at home and abroad.' Part 2. pag. 56.

16. [During the War] 'The Landlord received his Rent duly, the Farmer sold the Product of his Land at a high Rate. WOOL, &c. bore a great Price, and, which was of Consequence, the Manufactures of the Kingdom went on chearfully.' Pag. 166.

17. Mr.

Ch. 142. *Membris of Wool, &c.* 339

17. Mr. *Webber's* third Assertion. WOOL in this Period, yielded the Sheep Mafter from 12 to 14 and 16 l. a Pack.^a Ch. 142

18. *Proof*: Besides what we have seen from Dr. *Davenant* (§. 16.) Tradition favours this Account, in regard to some Part of King *William's* Reign. And as that appears^a not to have been the Case, after the Peace of *Ryswick*; so it is to be concluded, that WOOL was at Numb. II. the highest Price in *England*, nominally at least, during the first War, and that, for the following Reasons, besides the clandestine Exportation of Wool, as already shewn, viz. 1. The great Havock made of the Sheep in *Ireland*, during the War there (1688---91) 2. An extraordinary Rot, probably, in *England* (Anno 1692²) 3. The bad State of the Silver Coin^a, which made a Guinea equal to thirty Shillings; and, with all this, a Competency of good Trade^a, foreign and domestic. Ch. 82: \$ 1, 2, 7; Ch. 75^a \$ 14. Note. A.D. 1692.

So that, in regard to this first Period, Mr. *Webber* has chiefly failed, only in asserting that Wool was not exported^b, as in after Times; and that therefore it was dear, viz. from 12 to 14 and 16 l. a Pack. Whereas here is more room to think that it was dear, as one Cause, by reason of its being so MUCH exported. Ch. 141; \$ 6, 7.

NUMB. II.

Second Period: From the Peace of *Ryswick* (1697) to the breaking out of the second *French War* (1702)

1. Mr. *Webber's* first Assertion: FRANCE getting Wool and Hands from *Ireland*, it was the Beginning of the Growth of their Manufactures. Ch. 141; \$ 6, 7.

2. *Proof*: It has appeared already^d, that the Runn- age of Wool to *France*, was not a new Practice at this Period, nor the Woolen Manufacture, a new Business here^e. No. 1. \$ 4---11; See Ch. 50, 51, &c.

3. Mr.

* * The Product of our Lands hath bore a very considerable Price for seven or eight Years last past, occasioned by the Badness of our Coin, &c. (See Ch. 86. §. 1.)

'Tis true, the Price of Gold, and Badness of our Silver Coin^f, did influence [the Price of Wool, &c.] See Ch. 76.

Davenant of publick Revenues, Part 2. (pag. 166.) \$ 10. Note.

340 *Memoirs of Wool, &c.* Ch. 142

3. Mr. Webber's second Assertion. 'The English Woolen Trade declined.'
- § Ch. 141. 'Woolen Trade declined.'
- §. 7. 4. Proof: There have occurred two clear and positive Testimonies to the contrary. 1. The Woolen Exports from England (1699) amounting to 2,932,292 l. 17 s. 6 d; which exceeded all that were before or after, to the Year 1713 (the Time of the British Merchants writing) and which Year therefore was pitched upon, to shew in the strongest Light, the Advantages to England, by prohibiting Trade with France. 2. We are further assured by the British Merchant, that after the Peace of Ryswick, 'the Demand for our Woolen Goods was then so great in Spain [particularly] that Colchester Bays rose from 17 d. to 23 d. per Ell.' Again (says he) 'let any one look back to the Peace of Ryswick, and he will find, that notwithstanding we had been in Amity with Spain during that War, and carried on a Trade with some Difficulty, by Convoys and Runners; yet, on that Peace, as soon as we were able to go free, and Freight and Insurance were easy and reasonable, all English Goods proper for the Spanish Markets, advanced considerably.'
5. Mr. Webber's third Assertion. Wool fell from 14 and 16 to 9 and 11 l. 2 s. Pack.
- § Ch. 141. 6. Proof: Dr. Davenant, in his Discourse of the public Revenues, dated 1698 (Part 2. pag. 413) estimates the Wool of England at 28 s. per Tod, or 12 d. per Pound, upon an Average. A Pamphlet, dated in the same Year 1698, containing, 'The Substance of the Arguments offered, at the Bar of the House of Lords, for and against the Bill for prohibiting the Exportation of Woolen Manufacture from Ireland to foreign Parts,' in an Estimate, which we are to suppose was offered at the Bar of the House on that Occasion (and with a View to represent the Difference, at that Time, between the Price of English Wool in England, and of Irish Wool in Ireland, and how much cheaper the latter was than the former) makes 9 d. a Pound the then medium Price of English Wool in England. But the aforesaid Book of Dr. Davenant's, from which I transcribe, tho' dated 1698, appears by a written Memorandum, to have been presented by the Author, To Robert Harley, Esq; Jan. 14, 1697. And in the Body of the Book it is said to have

have been wrote about the Months of *September* and *October* preceding.

So that upon the whole, we may conclude, that in 1698 (when the Affair of the *Irish* Woolen Manufacture was before the *House of Lords*) 9 d a Pound was a medium Price for *English* Wool in *England*, as 12 d. a Pound, had been, some little Time before. And for which Fall in the Price of Wool, may be assigned, as Reasons, 1. The Regulation of the Coin; by which, *Guineas* had fallen to their old Value, of 21 s. 6 d. 2. *Ireland* was again in full Stock. And, notwithstanding the Woolen Exportations had increased, yet we shall prove by a stronger Instance (*Ann.* 1737—8^m) that the Price^m Ch. 176. of Wool in *England* is not so much governed by the Quantity of Woolens exported, as Mr. *Webber* says it is, and as has been commonly imagined.

So then, Mr. *Webber* is mistaken, in concluding a Decay of the Woolen Exportation Trade, and an excessive Exportation of Wool in this second Period, from a Fall in the Price of Wool, during the same.

N U M B. III.

Third Period, viz. From the Commencement of the second *French* War (1702) to 1707.

1. Mr. *Webber's* first Assertion: The *French* were at a Loss for Wool: Theyⁿ had little or none but whatⁿ Ch. 141. they took with their Privateers. §. 8.

2. Proof: 1. *A. D.* 1702°, The Queen recommended ° Ch. 88. to the Parliament the preventing the Exportation of §. 3. Wool*, 2. Captain N. P in June 1704, being a Pri^p §. 7. soner at *St. Malo*, and having the Liberty of the Town, saw great Quantities of Wool brought thither. There were given to the Lords in Parliament, in 1704, an Account of many Ships then in the Port of *Rochel*, *Nantz*, and *Bourdeaux*, laden with WOOL, &c. 4. Mr. *Crawley*, Register of the Court of Admiralty, had many Informations of the same Kind. 5. In April 1705, several

* Hence it seems, as if the Government did not think with Mr. *Webber*, that there was but little Wool exported at this Time.

ral Prisoners, *Irishmen*, taken by Sir George Byng in a French Man of War, being examined, confessed a constant Trade and Practice; as is before-mentioned. 6. A

- Ch. 89. Scotch Writer, J. Spruel⁹, A. D. 1705, says, 'There
§. 18. ' has been no little Money exported, and paid for Wool
' into England, and this again exported into Holland,
' besides what is exported of our own Wool; insofmuch,
' that I am credibly informed, that there is above 10,000l.
' worth Sterling, of WOOL lying over the Year into
' Holland, unfold; and yet here many is buying, and
' exporting it, this Year also.'

3. ' In Ireland, Ann. 1702 to 1705, I perceived a
' more general and open Exportation of WOOL to
' FRANCE.'

*The pernicious Practice discovered, of selling
Wool to Foreigners, &c. Printed 1743.
(pag. 3.)*

4. Mr. Webber's second Assertion: Trade was very
Ch. 141. good in this Period, particularly in the Year 1703.
§. 8, 9. 5. Proof: The whole Exports from England, Ann.
Ch. 88. 1703 (when according to Mr. Webber, the Woolen
§. 4. Trade of England was at the highest) amounted nearly,
Ch. 87. but not fully, to the whole Exports of 1699: So that
§. 4. Note. there is Reason to believe, that the whole Woolen Ex-
ports of this flourishing Period, were not quite so much
as in 1699, when, according to him, the Trade
drooped.

6. Mr. Webber's third Assertion: Wool rose again from
Ch. 141. 9 and 11^u to 12 and 14 l. a Pack.
§. 9.

7. Proof: I have not met with any positive Evidence
touching the Price of English Wool in England, at this
Period, except in one Instance (to be mentioned presently)
viz. in the Year 1706 ——— But it appears from Mr.
Ch. 89. Spruel^u above-mentioned N^o. 3. §. 2.) that about the
§. 20. Years 1704 and 1705, Wool of Scotland was sold by
the Store Masters there, for 9 and 10 l. Scots per Stone,
viz. 30, and 33 s. 4 d. Sterling per Tod, at 16 lb. to
the Stone. This, there is Reason to think, was an ad-
Ch. 88. vanced Price, occasioned in some Measure, by an Act^u
§. 8. Note. passed August 1704, in the Parliament of Scotland, al-
lowing the Exportation thence, of Wool and Skins. As
to the single Instance, of the Price of Wool in England,
Ann.

Ch. 142. *Memoirs of Wool, &c.* 343

Ann. 1706; it was but 17s. 6d. *per Tod*, from the same Farm¹, which in 1717, had 1l. 3s. *per Tod*.² Ch. 171.

So that Mr. *Webber* seems to have mistaken Things N^o. 1. again, in concluding the Woolen Trade to have been §. 1, 7. considerably better in this Period, and the Exportation of Wool proportionably less, than in the last; because in some Part of it, Wool gave a better Price; whereas the Woolen Trade of this Period, though good, was not, in all Probability, equal to the former; and the clandestine Exportation of Wool from *England*, by Reason especially of the *Fracquair*² with *Scotland*, must be thought² Ch. 88. to have exceeded, for a Season, what had been practised, §. 8. *Note*. ordinarily, at other Times.

N U M B. IV.

Fourth Period: From 1707 to 1712.

1. Mr. *Webber's first Assertion*: Merchants fell into a Method of carrying Wool plentifully into *France*, by *French Passes* obtained from *Edinburgh*². Ch. 141.

2. *Proof*: I shall not say this is not true; but more §. 11. probably it was most the Case, in the last foregoing Period, while *England* and *Scotland* were in a State of Disagreement on many Accounts; and while the People of *Scotland*, not being bound by the *English* Laws, nor entitled to the same Privileges with *English* Men, in Trade, were more at Liberty, as well as more inclined to make their Country a Back-door for the Passage of *English Wool* beyond Sea. But the Union commencing May 1, 1707², the Case was somewhat altered. We Ch. 91. may also here remember, what has been mentioned be- §. 8. *Note*. fore^c, from a Book intitled, *A Tour through Great-^c N. B.* Britain.

3. Mr. *Webber's second Assertion*. Wool^d fell to 8l. Ch. 141. 10s. and 9l. a Pack. §. 11.

4. *Proof*: It fell considerably lower. Wool, of the same Farm, which in 1706^c, sold for 17s. 6d. was sold^e N^o. 3. 1707, for but 16s. 6d. and in 1711, for 13s^f. And §. 7. Wool, which upon the Peace, advanced to 18s. was, Ch. 171. during this Period, sunk to 15s. *per Tod*; therefore, N^o. 1.

Mr. *Webber's* Mistake in this Period, seems to be, his §. 1, 2, 3. assigning a wrong Reason for the Price of Wool falling, Ch. 109. in supposing (as the Cause of that Fall) an Excess of P. 8. clandestine

clandestine Exportation; when more probably, that Practice received an extraordinary Check by the Union; and the Wool of *Scotland* being no longer tolerated to pass beyond Sea, a Part thereof, which was wont to be so disposed of, did actually recoil upon *England*.

NUMB. V.

Fifth Period: From 1712 to the breaking out of the Plague in *France* (which was in 1720.)

1. Mr. *Webber's first Assertion*: Besides the Wool exported ^h unmanufactured, Thousands of Combers were employed by the Papists in *Ireland* [which combed Wool] they sent to *France*.

2. *Proof*: 1. 'The Decrease in the Exports of Wool from *Ireland* to *England*, from the Year 1711 to the Year 1714, was 362,983 Stones; which, it is more than probable, found its Way into *France*.' 2. An Act ^k for the more effectual Prosecution of Persons exporting Wool. 3 *Geo. c.* 21. 3. *Aug.* 22, 1717. An Order ^l of Council issued, requiring the military Officers on the Coasts, to assist those of the Customs, in preventing the Exportation of Wool.

3. Mr. *Webber's second Assertion*. The Price of Wool ^m continued to decline, 'till the Plague broke out in *France*.

4. PROOF (OF THE PRICE OF WOOL DECLINING, in this Period, from Mr. *Webber's* OWN KNOWLEDGE,) viz. Wool of the same Farm ⁿ, which in 1711, sold for N^o. 1. 13 s. per Tod, was sold in the Year 1714, at 18 s. 1716, at 19 s. 1717 at 1 l. 3 s. 1718 at 1 l. 2 s. 3 d. 1719 at 1 l. 2 s. 1720 at 1 l. per Tod. Will Mr. *Webber* call this continuing to decline? Or, in this last Assertion, has not he taken very nearly the Reverse of Truth? But, I suppose, this appeared best to suit his Hypothesis.

NUMB. VI.

Sixth Period: during the Time of the Plague in *France*.

1. Mr. *Webber's first Assertion*: FRANCE could get none of our Wool ^o.

2. *Proof*:

3. *Proof*:

Ch. 142. *Memoirs of Wool, &c.* 345

2. *Proof*: This has been said ^a by many, as also, that ^b Ch. 123. a great Share of the *Irish Wool*, which before that Time, §. 5. used to be carried to *France*, was at this Juncture, Ch. 140. brought to *England*; and that consequently the *English* §. 18, 19. had more Wool and Yarn from *Ireland* than at other Times.

3. *Mr. Webber's second Assertion*: Our Goods were ^c Ch. 141. called for as fast as we could make them, and we sold §. 13. them at whatever Price we thought fit to set upon them.

4. *Proof*: Much has been said ^d to this Effect, by ^e Ch. 174. many other Writers; and the Woolen Exports were §. 3—8. actually more in 1721, 1722—3—4, than in 1718 ^f—^g Ch. 174. §. 8. 1719.

5. *Mr. Webber's third Assertion*: Wool ^h rose from ⁱ Ch. 141. 7 and 7 l. 10 s. to 11 and 12 l. a Pack. §. 13.

6. *Proof*: Wool DID NOT rise in Price, at this Juncture ^j; but on the contrary, it fell; and consequently ^k See Mr. Webber's darling Hypothesis falls, and the whole Ch. 171. Credit of his Narrative, along with it. No. 1, 2,

I shall take another ^l Occasion to shew how, and ^m 3. 4. why, this egregious Falsehood, the supposed Advance of ⁿ Ch. 174. Wool in *England*, during the Effects of the Plague in *France*, has since been so far adopted for a material and fundamental Truth, as that, but by a particular Chance, followed by a seasonable Detection, it must have passed upon the present Age, and to future Generations, with a Doctrine built upon it, flattering, indeed, the Humour and pre-conceived Opinions of the People, but tending only to continue them under a very gross Deception (derived from their Fathers) and to entail the same upon their Posterity.

N U M B. VII.

Seventh Period: From the ceasing of the Plague in *France*, to the Year 1739.

1. *Mr. Webber's first Assertion*: Wool sunk again ^o Ch. 141. from 11 and 12 l. a Pack, till in the Year 1739, it was §. 14. fallen to 4 l. 10 s. and 5 l. a Pack.

2. *Proof*: The Price of Wool, at the Time of the Author's Writing, it was as impossible for him to mistake, as it would have been vain in him to have misrepresented very much.

The

The Plague broke out at *Marfeilles*, June 1720. It raged near two Years in that City, and the Province of *Languedoc*; which brings us down to the Year 1722. But it may be confidered, that the Effect thereof, in regard to the Trade and Manufacture of that City and Province, could not be fupposed to ceafe with the Diftemper. Allowing then but two Years more for the re-peopleing of that Part of *France*, and for the re-inftating, in any tolerable Degree, the Manufactures and Trade thereof; that brings the Account to the Year 1724: By which Time, *Engliſh Wool in England*, was fallen ^w confiderably from the Prices of 1719, and 1720; lower than it was from 1728 to 1733, though not quite fo low, as from 1735 to 1742 inclusive.

^w See

Ch. 171.
N^o. 5.

^w Ch. 141.

§. 14.

3. *Mr. Webber's ſecond Affertion* ^w: Wool has been exported in this laſt Period, in much greater Quantities than at any Time heretofore. *France* gets certainly 300,000, but more probably, 500,000 Packs of Wool yearly, from *England* and *Ireland*.

4. *Proof*: It is impoſſible to aſcertain the Meaſure of a Practice, which in its Nature muſt be ſecret. And though it is not to be doubted, but that the illicit Trade was carried on in this Period, as in others, in ſome Degree; yet, I think, this Affair has been much exaggerated by *Mr. Webber*, and that the Medium he has pitched upon, though concluſive, if true, will not make good this his ſecond Affertion; which Medium is,

^w Ch. 141.

§. 14, 15.

5. *Mr. Webber's third Affertion* ^w: There are not a third Part of the Number of Combers, Scriblers, and Carders, in *England* and *Ireland* (1739) which were in 1697. Conſequently, the Woollen Manufacture of *England* and *Ireland*, is ſo much decayed; and two Thirds, at leaſt, of the Wool grown in *England* and *Ireland*, are in Courſe exported, unmanufactured.

6. *Proof*: This Affertion, whether true or falſe, is very extraordinary; as requiring the moſt implicit Belief imaginable; ſince he has not vouchſafed to give the leaſt Shadow of a Reaſon, to induce his Readers to think, that he himſelf had ſo much as the Means of knowing any Thing nearly, the whole Numbers employed in this Way, either in 1697, or in 1739, or at any other Time.

How

Ch. 142. *Memoirs of Wool, &c.* 347

How far the *Woolen Manufacture* ^v was really decayed ^v *See* at this Time (1739) I am not able to say. It is well *Ch. 177.* known that very great Complaints were made on this *§. 19.* Head, and that there were sundry Applications to Parliament on Account thereof. Nevertheless, by Custom-House Accounts ^z since then, exhibited to Parliament, it ^z 1745: appears ^a, that *Ann. 1737---8*, the very Instant when ^a *Ch. 171.* these Complaints became loudest, the *English Woolen* *N^o. 5.* Exports were more than one Fourth greater than in the Year 1699 ^v; which Year had exceeded all others, to *Ch. 176.* the Year 1713, the Time of the *British Merchants* *§. 36, 40.* Writing; nor was this a Year so far, by Chance extraordinary, but that the five subsequent Years ^c (each of ^c *See* them) exceeded that great Year of Woolen Exportations, *Ch. 171.* 1699, and, most of them, considerably. — Consequence *N^o. 5.* quently, the Decay of the *English Woolen Manufacture*, (if indeed there was any) must have been, as before ^d, in ^d *See* 1699, so now (1739) not in what is called the *Woolen* *Ch. 87.* *Exportation Trade*, but in the *home Consumption* of *§. 4. Note.* *Woolens*; of which (if so) the very low Price of *English Wool* in *England* at this Season, must have been *one Cause*; because, as has been before ^e observed, what the ^e *Ch. 103.* *English Wool-Growers* do receive, that, and no MORE, *§. 6. Note.* can they possibly pay or expend. And if this Part of the Landholders are abridged of a Third, or one Half of the Money, which they have been wont to receive from Wool, no Persons in the Kingdom, in the last Result of Things, are more likely to participate in that Loss, than the Drapers and the Mercers ^f; and so in Course, the ^f *See* Weavers, &c. For tho' Raiment (like Food) is a Ne- *Ch. 65.* cessary of Life; yet, as has been said before ^g, the Dif- ^g *Ch. 114.* ference of Expence is sensibly great, between purchasing *§. 22.* new Cloths and having a Variety or Change of the best Sort, and patching up old ones, and putting off with few and meaner.

P. S. In this Year passed, as follows, viz. *An Act for taking off the Duties upon Woolen and Bay Yarn imported from Ireland to England, and for the more effectual preventing the Exportation of Wool, from Great Britain, and of Wool and Wool manufactured, from Ireland to foreign Parts.* 12 Geo. II. c. 21.

This

This Act recites several Duties upon ‘Woolen and Bay Yarn imported from *Ireland*; and that taking off the same, may be of Use to prevent the exporting of Wool and Woolen Manufactures from *Ireland* to foreign Parts, and may be of Use to the Manufactures of *Great Britain*; and therefore enacts, that the Payment of the said Duties be discontinued.’ It recites further, ‘That whereas, notwithstanding the several Laws made to prevent the Exportation of Wool unmanufactured from this Kingdom and *Ireland* to foreign Parts, such Exportation is NOTORIOUSLY * CONTINUED.’ And therefore enacts, ‘That all Wool, Yarn or Woolen Goods exported from *Ireland*, shall be shipped off at certain Ports only in *Ireland*, to certain Ports only in *England*; and that only in such Ships and Vessels as shall be of the Built of *Great Britain* or *Ireland*, and wholly owned and manned by the Subjects of the same. The Person claiming Property therein, to register the same, and take an Oath, or if a Quaker, an Affirmation, &c. and to receive a Certificate of so doing, &c.’ (for which, see the *Act* at large, containing 34 Sections.)

C H A P.

* Thus, after racking the Invention both of the People and Parliament, for near 80 Years, viz. from the *Restoration* (1660) to this Year (1739) it stands here confessed upon Record, that the Practice in this Case, designed to be prevented, was still notoriously continued. And upon a Supposition, that the same would be conducive to prevent the Exporting of Wool and Woolen Manufacture from *Ireland* to foreign Parts, by increasing the Importation of Wool and Yarn from *Ireland* to *England*, this *Act* was passed. But

• P. S. to his short Account. ‘besides what Mr. Webber said, viz. ‘The Woolen Manufacturers justly observed, this *Act* would not prevent the Exportation of our unmanufactured Wool.’) We shall see † that it has not increased the Importation of Wool and Yarn from *Ireland* to *England*.
Nº. 5.

C H A P. CXLIII.

Extracts of Letters, &c.

N U M B. I.

*Daily-Post, Thursday Feb. 21, 1740.**Extract of a Letter from Dublin, dated Feb. 9, 1739—40.*

1. **T**HE House met on the 28th of *January*, which was the Day appointed to take the *Woolen* * *Affair* under Consideration, but adjourned to that Day seven-night, on Account of the Severity of the Weather, and then adjourned again till the 8th of *February*; when a Motion was made, *That a Permit, under proper Regulations, would be conducive to prevent the clandestine Exportation of the Wool.* The Debate was managed principally by the Prime Sergeant, the Attorney General, and Solicitor General, in Favour of the Motion. The opposite Party all joined earnestly in expressing their Abhorrence of this Practice, so injurious to both Nations; but urged, from a Computation which had been made with

* While the Act (12 Geo. II. c. 21 s.) was debating in: Ch. 142.
Parliament, it was not only argued in Favour thereof, that p. 5.
it was, in its Nature, conducive to prevent the Exportation
of Wool and Woolen Manufacture from *Ireland* to foreign
Parts, by increasing the Imports of *Wool and Yarn* from *Ire-*
land to *England*; but there was also Hopes entertained,
and some Assurances likewise given, that in return for this
Civility to *Ireland*, a Bill would pass in the next Session of
Parliament there, to prevent effectually the Runnage of
Wool from thence to foreign Parts. Accordingly, we per-
ceive by this Letter, that such a Bill was set on Foot, but
that the Reception it met with, was very different from
what *England* had been made to expect; that the Concession
in *England* (12 Geo. II. c. 21.) had served only to make
Ireland rise in its Demands upon the *English* in this Case,
and to shew us that the *Irish* meant to be content with no-
thing less than a free foreign Trade for their Woolen Ma-
nufacture.

A Computation, of the Wool of Ireland. with great Accuracy, and was acquiesced to by all Parties, that the Evil was much less than passionate, ignorant, and interested People had represented, particularly, on the other Side of the Water. This Computation was, that 1,000,000 Stones of Wool were grown in *Ireland* [a Stone of Wool in *Ireland* is 16 lb. or thereabouts] which amounted to one Third of the Rents of the Kingdom; of which 700,000 were consumed at home, 150,000 exported into *England* in Wool and Yarn, 50,000 exported in Manufacture to foreign Parts, and 100,000 in raw Wool: That whatever some might think of the Damage done to the Woollen Manufacture of *England*, by the 50,000 Stone of manufactured Wool exported from *Ireland*, it was far from being a Loss to that Nation; since that Branch of Trade, which was carried on only at *Lisbon*, would be carried on by the *French*, if *Ireland* was deprived of it; the *English* not being able to work those Stuffs by 16 per Cent. so cheap as either *France* or *Ireland*; and that this appeared evidently from what had lately happened in *Ireland* upon the Reduction of the Coin; which having raised the Price of the *Irish* Woollen Goods near 3 per Cent., the *French* had already deprived us of one Half of that Trade, and yet the *English* had not sold one Bale of Goods the more. That the real Loss of *England* and *Ireland* therefore, in this particular of *Ireland*, was singly to be computed from the 100,000 Stones of raw Wool clandestinely exported; which at 7 Shillings per Stone, the greatest Price it could be computed at, amounted but to 35,000*l.*; which, though when manufactured abroad, with the Addition of foreign Wool, was undoubtedly a great Loss to both Nations, could by no Means be reckoned the Cause of the Decay of the *English* Manufacture. That therefore other Causes must be sought, which must either be the immense Quantities exported clandestinely from *England*; of which we could not pretend to form an Estimate; or the high Rents of Land and other Inconveniences which affected the Commerce of that Country.

The English cannot work so cheap by 16 per Cent. as France or Ireland.

2. They then inveighed bitterly at the Passion, which had ever been shewn against this Country, in *England*, where the Majority sought our Ruin, from Prejudices that possibly had some Foundation, when *Ireland* was in Popish Hands and in an opposite Interest; but cruel, whom

when there was no Difference in our Interests, civil or religious, and when the Nation was in the Hands of the Offspring of their Families. They said that this Passion had, in every Instance, hindered the *English* from seeing their true Advantage, which certainly was, to consider us as the *same People*; and in a general Consideration to make Use of us in Trade, as Merchants made Use in private Commerce of the poorest and cheapest Manufacturers. That we had now, for near one whole Century, suffered the heaviest Restraints upon every Branch of our Trade; infomuch, that it was well known, that no Man could see one Third of that Profit from his Fortune, which he might do, if our Government was upon an equal Footing. That if these Sufferings were calculated truly to maintain the Interest and Prosperity of *England*, we were so much concerned in its Welfare, and so sensible of the Right of all Nations, who have the Power to enforce their own Advantage before that of others, that we could endure it all without Resentment; but that it was a Severity of the most galling Nature, to be thus sacrificed to false Maxims, and the Pursuit of Schemes grounded upon nothing but on the Prejudices and Ignorance of the State of this Country, and so destructive to the whole, that *England*, as well as *Ireland*, would inevitably be ruined by it.

3. That this being the Case, it would be absurd in us to saddle ourselves with new Officers and new Powers, which were always abused in a scandalous manner in this Country, from the Weakness of our Government, and the Authority of those who are set over us, without any Knowledge of our Interests or Constitution, and commonly without any Qualifications, but that of making hasty Fortunes out of the Publick; and who could, and always did, screen themselves from any Complaints by their Interest on your Side of the Water. That the Thing proposed had innumerable Inconveniencies in it in any Shape; that it subjected Men to many Inconveniencies of an *Excise*, which their Neighbour Country had with great Reason lately opposed, tho' you were much more able to prevent the Abuses of those employed in it than we are; that it would create a slavish Dependance on little People, which would induce all Men to court them, to prevent the Effects of their malicious Infor-

Informations, or to connive at their *Male Practices*, which would *inevitably be continued* by the Corruption of those employed to prevent them. That it would be surprising if the People of *England* themselves should wish a Regulation, which would only encrease the Influence of Places and Employments, which operated upon the Mother Country, wherever they were established; nor could they imagine that *England* could think it reasonable for us to bring a State of Slavery upon ourselves, without a Prospect of preventing any Evil: But that if it was our Fate to be destroyed, it was a less Crime for a Nation to receive its Ruin from a Violence imposed upon it, than to be the *Felons* of its own Constitution, and to destroy itself; and that they were certain, the Means of that Violence, if ever it should be exercised on us, either by civil or military Means, would retort with a dangerous Force upon the Promoters of it.

4. They then earnestly entreated those who urged the Motion, to withdraw it, and to concur in a Representation, to the Government, of the true State of the Wool and Woollen Manufactory; and to give the most sincere and solemn Assurances that every Man, both in a public and private Capacity, was truly sensible of the Evil, and fully resolved in every Way that was possible to prevent it; but at the same Time, to shew that no *METHOD* but *Indulgence* could effect it; to desire, if possible, that Means might be used to try the Effect of the late

* Ch. 142. Act^b for the Importation of *Irish* Yarn to *England*, for one Year or two, before it should be repealed; because they were confident it would have a considerable Effect; and finally, to *insist in the strongest Manner*, upon a Permission, to manufacture in such Goods as might be thought proper, the Quantity of 100,000 * Stones of *Irish* Wool, which, as they had seen, was the Quantity clandestinely exported; and that the Permission of this Quantity would so effectually engross all that Wool which created the Complaint against this Country, that there would not remain afterwards the Possibility of any material

* He should have said (to have been consistent with himself) 150,000 Stones, because so much he had allowed to be at present clandestinely exported, manufactured and raw. (See §. 1. *A Computation, &c.*)

great Injury to be done by us to the Woolen Trade of *England*.

3. And thus by an Indulgence of only 150,000 *l.* per *Ann.* in this Commerce, which that Quantity of Wool worked up, might amount to, the *French* and other foreign Nations would be deprived of twice as much; it being well known, that they add at the Rate of two Pounds of their own Wool to any Quantity they can obtain from *Ireland*; by which Means there would be an immediate and demonstrable Gain to *England* of 300,000 *l.* worth of Woolen Manufacture, besides the 150,000 *l.* allowed to *Ireland*, the Profit of which would likewise center in *England*.

6. The Debate was carried on with the greatest Decency, and the most sincere Disposition to the general Advantage, that ever I observed in this Parliament; and it was at length agreed by all Parties, (after we had sat six Hours,) at seven in the Evening, to adjourn 'till *Monday*, to give Men more Time to consider maturely of this important Affair; which was the more necessary, because those that made the Motion were either not well prepared to open all the Consequences, or thought Matters not ripe enough to discover the whole of their intended Scheme.

7. I am very sensible that some wise Politicians on your Side, will think that the Opposition to this Motion proceeded from our Insincerity, to do any Thing to prevent the clandestine Exportation of our Wool; but I can solemnly answer for myself, and so I may venture to do for the whole House, that there is nothing so earnestly desired here as to prevent this Evil, by any safe and reasonable Means; for we are all sensible that it is, if possible, more ruinous to us than to *England*; for we never receive one Shilling in Return for the Wool thus exported; we are repaid in *French* Brandies and *Aigre* Wine, which is run in upon our Coasts without Duty, and hurts the Revenue to that Degree, that we are under the greatest Difficulty to maintain the present Establishment, which yet we cannot do, without running considerably in Debt. But there is yet a greater Evil in it, which is the private Correspondence carried on between the *French* and the Papists in our remote Counties, which may extremely hazard, in an unfortunate Conjunction,

354 *Memoirs of Wool, &c.* Ch. 143.

the Security of the Protestant Interest in this Kingdom ; an Interest, which you know how much it is our peculiar Business to support, as all our Fortunes depend upon it.

I shall add nothing more at present upon this Head, but will certainly acquaint you with the further Progress of this Affair.

N U M B. II.

Daily-Post, Feb. 25, 1740.

Dublin, Feb. 14.

S I R,

I promised to acquaint you with the further Proceedings of our Parliament in Relation to the Wool. This Affair has taken a short unexpected Turn, and is dropped, I believe, for this Session. The Question proposed, was, *That a Permit, under proper Regulations, would be conducive to prevent the Exportation of Wool.* Hereupon, after great Debates, it was moved, that the Regulations hinted at, should be made a Part of the Question ; which the Promoters vehemently opposing, the House fell into Heats, and the Chairman left the Chair, without asking Leave to sit again.

N U M B. III.

Daily-Post, Feb. 28, 1740.

To the Author, &c.

S I R,

1. It is universally allowed by all who have any Notion of our Staple Trade, that the Decay of it is owing to the Exportation of *Irish* Wool to *France*, and that this is occasioned by *Ireland's* being shackled and confined in its Trade ; which consequently lays it under the greatest Temptations to carry on these illegal Practices.

¹ Ch. 142.
P. S.

2. The *British* Parliament hath lately made a Law¹, to prevent such illicit Trade, and thereby taken off the Duties from raw Wool, and Yarn, imported from *Ireland* to

England. So far, this Act is undoubtedly wisely cal-
 ated to answer the End intended ; but by a particular
 use in this Act, which Sir *John Barnard* greatly op- *The Stat.*
 ed, the whole is rendered insignificant. *Ireland* still 3 Geo. II.
 under its former Confinement, with regard to ma- c. 21. in-
 factured Goods ; THEREFORE, an *Irish* Parliament signifi-
 ll never pass this Law in the Shape that now it is in ; cant ; the
 frequently it will never be executed, and therefore Reason of
 il nothing. its being

3. From the Conduct of the *Irish* Parliament then, it
 plain, that *Ireland* is determined to dispose of its manu-
 tured Goods to the best Advantage it possibly can, and
 refore will not pass a Law that so severely prohibits
 Exportation of them ; from whence we may easily
 r, that whilst the *Irish* are thus cramped and fettered,
 y are resolved to carry on a contraband Trade, though
 er so destructive to the *English* Nation.

4. And supposing the Parliament of *Ireland* could be
 railed upon to pass this Law ; unless the *Irish* were
 receive some Encouragement in this Affair, it would
 redly be to no Purpose ; for where a lucrative Trade
 ents itself, the most penal and coercive Laws, have al-
 s proved insufficient to restrain Mankind from the fair
 rption.

5. It remains then, I humbly conceive, in order to
 in our Desires, that *Ireland* be allowed to import her
 usfactured Goods into *England*, but under such Du-
 as shall bring them upon a Par with the *British* *.

6. Nothing

* If such Duties are laid upon the Woolen Manufa-
 res imported from *Ireland* to *England*, as will bring
 em upon a Par with the *British*, the *French* will still be
 ble to under-sell us, because they can afford to give a
 uch higher Price for Wool than the *English* Manufa-
 rers, on account of the Cheapness of their Labour, and
 eir working up one Third of our Wool with two Thirds
 their own. Besides, the *French* have large Stocks of
 ighlish and *Irish* Wool by them, sufficient in all Probab-
 ility to keep up their Manufactory, for three Years at
 ast ; and whenever they find themselves debarred from
 e Wool of *Ireland*, by the Proposal above mentioned, * §. 4.
 ey will bid high enough to procure large Quantities of
 from *England*, and chuse rather to carry on the Trade

6. Nothing but Harmony and Unanimity among us, Nothing but a mutual Trade and Commerce established between the two Nations, can possibly be the grand Enemy, and compleatly accomplish the desired Work. It is not my single Opinion, that it will be vastly conducive to the Interest of both Nations, if all the Ports of *England* and *Ireland* were open for Trade under the Conditions above-mentioned¹. And if such just and natural Privileges are granted to *Ireland* (which will certainly be the only effective Means of securing the Woolen Trade to ourselves) *England* undoubtedly have the Pleasure of seeing *Ireland* w^o to shake Hands with it, and ready to embrace and execute such Measures as the *British* Parliament shall think wholefome and salutary for the Preservation of both

N U M B. IV.

Daily-Post, Feb. 29, 1751.

To the Author, &c.

S I R,

1. Whether the *Irish* export more unmanufactured Wool to foreign Parts than the *English* do, is like to remain a controverted Point. The latter affirm, that it is the greatest Blow to our Woolen Manufacture, that is run from *Ireland*; and the *Irish* are no less positive that *Ireland* runs more Wool to *France*, and other foreign Countries, than they do. But let that be as it will, it is not material to the present Purpose, nor can the Quantities of Wool destinedly exported by both Nations be certainly known. The Question is now, what must be done to support the Woolen Trade.

1

‘ without any Profit at all, than let it drop. In which undertaking, they will not fail to receive all possible Encouragement from their Court, to support them under all Difficulties, ’till we grow weary of carrying *Irish* Manufactures to foreign Markets upon a Par with our own. We ask our Correspondent’s Pardon for making this mark upon his Letter, which we don’t doubt is made with a sincere Desire to serve the Nation.’

2. As the Case stands, the *English* cannot recover it (tho' they might have preserved it by good Management) because their Labour is too high, and their Taxes too heavy on the labouring Part of the People; for, supposing that the *Irish* should bring over to us all that Wool which they now sell to Foreigners, the *French* would nevertheless find Means to get enough of that Material from *England*, and by the Cheapness of their Labour, as well as their working up our Wool with twice as much of their own, they would still have it in their Power to undersell us in foreign Markets.

3. The only Remedy then to this Evil is, to leave the Woolen Trade, or, at least, great Part of it, open to *Ireland*. Experience has taught us, that the more the *Irish* are cramped in that Article, the more it redounds to the Advantage of the *French*, our most formidable and inveterate Enemies

4. By the Folly, not to say the Injustice of *England*, *France* has rival'd us these many Years with a Witness, in the *Spanish*, *Portugal*, *Italian*, and *Levant* Trades, besides the great Vent she finds for Woolen Goods in the *Austrian Netherlands* and some Parts of *Germany*: This prodigious Increase of Trade has raised her to such a Pitch of Grandeur, that she is become more terrible than ever to her Neighbours.

5. The *London Gazette* tells us, that *France* is contracting with the *Danes* to furnish her with Salt Beef: Whether she expects that the *Irish* will breed more Sheep, and consequently furnish her with greater Quantities of Wool, when they find the Demand for black Cattle decreases, a little Time will shew us. However it be, it is certain, that since our Rupture with *Spain*, *France* has a much greater Demand upon her for Woolen Goods; and if her Contract with the *Danes* does not procure her larger Supplies of Wool from *Ireland*, it will serve at least to curry Favour with *Denmark*. The *French* have always more than one String to their Bow.

6. In short, Sir, it is high Time to think of doing something to destroy the Woolen Manufactures of *France*; and until I see a better Scheme offered for that Purpose, I must persist in my Opinion, that the safest and most effectual Means to destroy it, is, to take *Ireland*

land into the *Union*, and allow that Kingdom a FREE TRADE, or at least a *very extensive one*.

7. As soon as the *Spaniards* see us take the *Business* in Hand, they will sue to us for Peace, and let *France* become the Dupe of her own Schemes. But supposing that her Catholick Majesty should be so obstinate as to prefer the Gratification of her own Views, to the Interest of the *Spanish Nation*, these three Kingdoms, when under one and the same Form of Government, will be able to baffle all the Attempts of the House of *Bourbon*, and bring her down to our own Terms in a very few Years.

8. As to the Balance of Power in *Europe*, it will then be the immediate Concern of the Princes and States on the Continent to take Care of it; and if they should want our Concurrence, we may engage in their Measures upon very easy Terms: But whatever becomes of the Balance of *Europe*, by the Supineness of any of our Neighbours, I will venture to say, that the *Union* of the three Kingdoms will make us entirely Masters of the Balance of Power in *America*.

9. This, Sir, is what I think absolutely necessary to recover our *Woolen Trade*, and give new Life to some of our Friends abroad, who seem dejected at the over-grown Power of *France*: But whenever we go about this Business, I am humbly of Opinion that no *Blackwell-Hall* Factors, nor Woolen Manufacturers, need be consulted, for Reasons which are obvious to every Man of Sense.

I am, Sir, &c.

G. A. P. B.

10. Since I finished this Letter, I have read, with the utmost Concern, the Accountⁿ of the Proceedings in the Parliament of *Ireland*, relating to the Wool, but shall make no Remarks upon them, for several Reasons; nevertheless, I can't help concluding with the following Queries.

11. Whether it is not more eligible to let the *Irish* share with us in the Woolen Trade, nay, to throw even all our Trade into their Hands, than to raise up *France* upon the Ruins of the whole *British Empire*?

12. Whether

12. Whether those foreign Princes and States who are uneasy at the exorbitant Power of *France*, will not be very backward in forming any Alliances with us to reduce that Power, if they see us neglect the Means which can do it most effectually?

13. Whether the late Motion^o in the Parliament of^o N^o. 1: *Ireland*, was not made with a Design to make ignorant §. 1. prejudiced People here think, that it is entirely owing to the Obstinacy of the *Irish*, that no Stop can be put to the clandestine Exportation of Wool?

NUMB. V.

Daily-Post, March 7, 1740.

To the Author, &c.

S I R,

1. There being a seeming Objection^r to a Letter in^r N^o. 3: your Paper of the 28th of last Month, we shall endeavour to give it an Answer. §. 5. Note.

2. We allow the *French* may under-sell us, if they can possess our Wool; and possibly they may have *English* and *Irish* Wool sufficient to support their Manufactory for three Years to come. But when their present Stock is consumed, how will they obtain more? Why, we are told, 'that when the *French* find themselves debarred from the Wool of *Ireland*, by our Proposal, they will bid high enough to get large Quantities of it from England, &c^r.'^{1 See}

3. The chief Point in Question then seems to be, whether 'tis possible to keep our Wool from *France*. The Author of the Objection seems to allow, that by our Proposal^r, the *French* will be debarred from our *Irish* Wool; we would willingly ask then, why not from the *English*? The same Laws will be in Force in *England* as in *Ireland*; and we have but little Reason to imagine they will be better executed in *Ireland* than in *England*. And if the present Laws, after being well executed, should prove insufficient to exclude our Seducers, we are pretty confident, with a hearty Concurrence of *Ireland*, that such Measures may be embraced and executed, as will effectually do the Business.—We believe

believe such a Method hath already been proposed, without yoking or galling the Woolen Interest in the least.

4. But supposing we cannot stop all the Channels, whereby our Wool is conveyed to *France*, is it not highly incumbent on us to block up as many as possibly we can? The Author of the Objection allows of our Proposals being a Means to distress the *French*; if so, 'twill undoubtedly be no ill Policy in us, to subject them to all the Difficulties and Disadvantages, we possibly can.

* N^o. 3. 5. As to '*France chusing*' rather to carry on the
§. 5. Note. '*Trade without any Profit at all, than to let it drop,*' 'tis, we imagine, not to be credited, that People can carry on a Trade with such Spirit and Vigour, without Profit, as with it; and tho' they may at first make a Stand, and struggle hard for it, it will assuredly in Time decay and dwindle to nothing.

6. And how sanguine soever the Court of *France* may appear in this Affair, we believe it will grow weary of supporting its Subjects under such Difficulties and Disadvantages, as it must be liable to, before we shall grow weary of carrying *Irish* Manufactures to foreign Markets upon a Par with our own.

* N^o. 3. 7. We would beg Leave to ask the Author of the
§. 5. Note. Objection, if he thinks our Woolen Trade is irretrievably lost? If not, we thinking him sincerely attached to the Interest of these Kingdoms, hope he will lay down some easy and familiar Scheme, better calculated to answer the End intended, than the before * mentioned Proposal *.

N U M B.

* Since our Correspondent desires us to lay down a
* Scheme to retrieve the Woolen Trade, we refer him to
* the plain Method proposed in the *Daily Post* of the 29th
* past; which we think the only one practicable in this
* ticklish Conjunction. For as all Nations have a Right to
* make the most of their own Product, it is very much to
* be feared at this Time of Day, the *Irish* will not come
* into any Measures for retrieving the Woolen Manufactory,
* unless they are allowed a direct Exportation to foreign
* Markets; and if they won't, how can *Britain* compel
* them, while she has her Hands full with the *Spanish* War?
* Ch. 179. The People of *Ireland* are sensible that *England* cannot
* §. 6, 7. destroy the Commerce of *France*, without their Con-
* currence;

N U M B. VI.

*Extract of a Letter from a M—— of P—— to the
Author of these Memoirs, 1745.*

S I R,

1. I should sooner have answered yours, had I not been in Hopes of having it in my Power, to write more to your Satisfaction. The H—— of C——ns have been so very inattentive to the Business of Wool (*it being a Subject no way concerning the Landed Interest*) that the C——t——e has not sat above twice or three Times, and then, not thirty M——s present, where they did nothing but

2. L—— Son to —— (and who has a considerable Estate in *Ireland*) tells me; 'He is very sure there is but little Wool run from that Kingdom;' which he makes out in the following Manner.

—3. 'In the Year 1699, when *Ireland* was first prohibited from exporting their Woolen Manufactures' (and he supposes they sent all their Wool into *England*, besides

rence; and can any impartial Man blame them for striving to be admitted to equal Profits, in bringing about an Event, on which the Preservation of the *British* Nation depends? When the whole GLOBE can be supplied with valuable Woolen Goods only from *Great Britain*, Ch. 105. and *Ireland*, the *English* Manufacturers need not fear the §. 12—14. want of Employment, there will be Work enough for N°. 3. both Kingdoms; and it is evident, that the greatest Part §. 5. of the Gains of the *Irish* will center here at last. (N°. 4. 'Had our Correspondent's Proposal been made to the §. 2.) *Irish* about a dozen Years ago, it would have been accepted, but it is somewhat too late now; for the more *shows* all our Trade decays, the higher will they rise in their Demands; because, as I have observed, *we cannot recover ours, and it without their Assistance.* Remarks, 'We were unwilling to say so much in our Paper of the to be but 28th of the last Month. (See N°. 3. §. 5. Note.) but the dramatic since our Correspondent returns to the Charge, we cannot tical Per- help speaking plain. However, if his Scheme be thought *formance* practicable, we don't doubt but the Legislature will soon of one and put it in Execution; and then the Success of it will soon the same decide who is in the Right.' Pen.

362 *Memoirs of Wool, &c.* Ch. 143.

besides what was used for their own Consumption) ' there
 ' was, for some Years, annually imported into *England*,
 ' 360,000 Stones of Wool at 16 *lb.* *per* Stone; now,
 ' 100,000 Stone;' admits the same Quantity grown
 there now, as at that Time, and that there remains to
 be accounted for, 260,000 Stone; which is done as fol-
 lows, *viz.*

- ' By Increase of Inhabitants, 800,000
 ' Souls (in the Year 1700 there being
 ' only 1,200,000, now 2,000,000) at
 ' four Pounds of Wool *per* Head — 200,000 Stone
- ' 100,000 Pounds worth of Manufactures
 ' clandestinely run, which at 5 Times
 ' the Price of the Wool, consumes
 ' 20,000 *l.* worth of Wool, or at 10 *s.*
 ' the Stone — — — 40,000 Stone
- ' By the same Calculation then, at 10 *s.*
 ' *per* Stone, there is now annually run
 ' 10,000 *l.* worth of Wool, or — 20,000 Stone

Total. 260,000 Stone

NUMB. VII.

Sept. 1740.

G. M.

1. A Correspondent in *Ireland* has acquainted us with
 some Proposals made in that Kingdom, neither unworthy
 of Notice, nor the Imitation of Gentlemen of For-
 tune, &c.

2. The *first* which we shall mention, is made by the
 Reverend Dr. *Madden*, who in order to encourage a
 Spirit of Improvement; among other Benefactions, hath
 given the annual Sum of 100 *l.* to be distributed to the
 Inhabitants of *Ireland* only, by way of Premium in the
 following Manner, *viz.* 50 *l.* to the Author of the best
 Invention for improving any useful Art or Manufacture,
 &c. which shall be approved of, as such, by the *Dublin*
 Society, on or before the 20th of *January* next, and so
 every Year.

3. The *Second* is by the said *Dublin* Society, who, in
 order to promote such useful Arts and Manufactures, as
 have not hitherto been introduced in that Kingdom, in-
 tend

tend to encourage by Premiums, annual Contributions or other Methods, any Persons who are well skill'd in such Arts and Manufactures, and will carry them on in the most skillful Manner; and have invited Gentlemen or Others, conversant in Husbandry, Trade, or Manufactures, to favour them with their Advice, that they may be better enabled to judge what Improvements are to be encouraged, &c. for the Benefit of the Public.

N U M B. VIII.

Remarks on certain Passages in some of the foregoing Letters.

1. As much of the Arguments contained in some of the foregoing Letters, is of a Piece with what we have before had, over and over again: So I shall not descant thereon particularly in this Place; but content myself with remarking on some few Things therein, as given for Facts; only first, by the Way, observe of Letter, N^o. I. That supposing it to be the genuine Epistle of a Member of the *Irish* Parliament, it is very extraordinary, that he should say, 'That they' (*the Irish*) because restrained in the Article of Woolens to foreign Parts, 'had suffered the *heaviest Restraints* in every Branch of their Trade,' after to great Indulgence shewn, and Encouragement received from *England* in respect of their Linen Manufacture, and that (according to all Writers on this Subject) at the Expence of some Part of the *English* Woolen Trade.

2. The Concessions of *England* to *Ireland*, in regard to the Linen Manufacture, thus plainly standing for nothing, it is the more credible (which this Letter-Writer says) 'That the Male-Practices of *Ireland* with regard to Wool, would inevitably be continued,' notwithstanding any Indulgences from *England*, save that of a *free Woolen Trade*.

3. But granting them a *free Woolen Trade* for 100,000 Stones; and this same Person tells us, 'the *Irish* would sincerely endeavour to prevent the Exportation of Wool.' Yet should I doubt, even in that Case, both the Sincerity and the Success of such Endeavours; because, under the *Monopoly*, of an absolute Prohibition,

364 *Memoirs of Wool, &c.* Ch. 143.

hibition, *a lucrative Trade would still present itself*; in which Case, this Gentleman has said, and I think, very truly, ‘*that penal and coercive Laws will avail little.*’

^b N^o. 1. - 4. *It is to be further noted*, that this Letter ^b speaks with Confidence of the extraordinary Effects to be expected from the Act ^c (12 Geo. II. c. 21.) By which I suppose him to mean, that greater Quantities of Wool and Yarn would certainly be imported from *Ireland* to *England*, in Consequence of that Act, than afore-times. This, indeed, was the Plea made for the Bill; and upon that Supposition, it passed. And how has it answered in the Event? From 1726 to 1729 ^d inclusive, were imported from *Ireland* to *England*, in Wool and Yarn, \$ 10. (C.) upon a Medium, each Year — — 132,398 $\frac{1}{2}$ Stones

^e See From 1741 to 1744 ^e inclusive — — 128,911 Stones
Ch. 171.
N^o. 5. Less in the Period, since the Act (12 Geo. II. c. 21.) than in that before. — — — 3486 $\frac{1}{2}$ Stones

5. *Again, with regard to some other Facts, as according to this Letter* (N^o. 1.)

^f See ^f The whole Quantity of Wool ^f produced Yearly in *Ireland*, at 16 Pound to the Stone, is 1,000,000 Stones.
(N^o. 1. \$ 1.) ^f The whole Value at 7 s. per Stone, is — 350,000 l.
A Computation. This, the Letter Writer says, is ‘one Third of the whole Rents of all *Ireland*.’ So that the Rent of all *Ireland* (we are to believe) is not more than — 1,050,000 l. And consequently, the whole Rents of *Ireland*, are not more than equal to the whole Rents of *Yorkshire* †.

6. But

† The Land Tax of *Yorkshire*, when at 4 s. per Pound, is 91,514 l. 3 s. Which being generally accounted to be much less, upon a Medium, than 2 s. per Pound *, of the real Rents of *Yorkshire*; it is supposed that the said real Rents of *Yorkshire* do exceed a Million per Ann.

* ‘The great Counties of York, &c. pay about one Shilling and six Pence.’

Essay on the Inequality of our present Taxes, 1746. pag. 13.

6. But it being incredible that the Rents of the whole Kingdom of *Ireland* should not very much exceed the Rents of *Yorkshire*: And the Wool of *England* being heretofore accounted equal to one Fifth of the Rents of *England*: And the Stock of *Ireland* consisting more, in Proportion, of Sheep, than the Stock of *England* does: Consequently, it being the more probable, for that Reason, that the Wool of *Ireland* is equal to one Third of the Rents of *Ireland*; HENCE it is credible, that the Wool of *Ireland* does very much exceed † 1,000,000 Stones.

7. However, let us see the Disposition which our Letter Writer makes of these supposed 1,000,000 Stones of Wool Yearly growing in *Ireland*; whence, and from other Circumstances, it may be better judged, whether or no that be indeed the whole Quantity; and we should the rather examine it, because, he says, it was a *Computation made with great Accuracy**, and acquiesced to by N^o. 1 all Parties.

8. This Computation supposes to be			
used in <i>Ireland</i>	—	—	700,000 Stones.
To be exported to <i>England</i> , in Wool			
and Yarn	—	—	150,000
In Manufacture, to foreign Parts	—		50,000
In raw Wool	—	—	100,000
Total.			1,000,000 Stones.

9. Next, let us see the Computation of another *Irish* Gentleman (N^o. 6.) who supposes 2,000,000 Souls (the present Number in *Ireland*) to consume of Wool, at four Pound

† ‘ *Ireland* contains near half as much Territory as *England*—and may be brought to produce near half as much Wool as *England* yields.’

An Essay on the Balance of Trade, &c. pag. 80. By Dr. Davenant, 1700.

‘ *Ireland* has about one Third of the Number of Inhabitants of *England*, and near a Fourth in the Value of Lands.’

Essay on the Inequality of our present Taxes, 1746. (pag. 32.)

‘ I compute that the Yearly Rents of Lands [in *England*] are eighteen Millions.’ (pag. 33.)

Pound per Head, 8000,000 Pounds, which at 16 Pound to the Stone, is	_____	500,000 Stones.
Imported to <i>England</i>	_____	100,000
In Manufacture, to foreign Parts	_____	40,000
In raw Wool	_____	20,000
Total.		660,000 Stones.

10. According to this latter Computation, to make up the whole Quantity of 1,000,000 Stones, as by the Computation of (N^o. 1.) there wants to be accounted for, 340,000 Stones, which (if the one was true, as to the whole Quantity produced, and also the other, as to the home Consumption, and the Importations to *England*) must be looked upon, as *so much* exported clandestinely, more than our second *Irish* Political Arithmetician ^a is willing to bring to Account.

6. 6.
6. 7.

11. But, besides what we have seen already ¹ to induce us to believe, that the whole Quantity of Wool produced yearly in *Ireland*, does far exceed 1,000,000 Stones: And whatever may be the whole Quantity yearly produced in that Kingdom, there are Reasons for thinking that neither of these Gentlemen compute rightly the Quantity of Wool exported, raw or manufactured, from *Ireland*.

12. The former (N^o. 1.) will allow but 300,000 Stones to be produced in *Ireland*, more than serves for their home Consumption. The latter (N^o. 6.) admits that after the Year 1699, when *Ireland* was first prohibited from exporting their Woolen Manufacture, the spare Wool of *Ireland* for some Time, was 360,000 Stones and NO MORE. (So much being brought to *England*, and none, as he would have it believed, at that Time, carried elsewhere.)

13. But in Contradiction to both these Opinions, touching the spare Wool of *Ireland*; and to induce us to believe (notwithstanding the pretended Accuracy of their Computations) that the spare Wool of *Ireland* (when in full Stock) was then, and is now, more than 300,000 Stones (according to N^o. 1.) or than 360,000 (according to N^o. 6.) we are to remember what has occurred before, viz. that in 1687, when the *Irish* Woolen Manufacture was at the highest, there was im-
ported

Ch. 143. *Memoirs of Wool, &c.* 367

ported to *England* in Wool and Yarn, at 18 *lb.* to the Stone, ————— 260,260^k Stones^k Ch. 126.
which at 16 *lb.* is ————— 292,792 Stones. §. 8.

Also in 1697, when the Woolen Trade of *Ireland* was again grown considerable, the Wool and Yarn imported thence to *England* was, at 18 *lb.* — 231,158^l Stones^l Ch. 126.
which at 16 *lb.* is ————— 260,052 Stones. §. 9.

14. 'Tis true, the Medium, of Wool and Yarn imported from *Ireland* to *England*, from 1700 to 1703 inclusive, was ————— 361,491^m Stones^m Ch. 126.
And there is a double Account to be given of this Increase beyond the Years 1687, and 1697. *First*, the Discouragement which the Woolen Manufacture of *Ireland* had received in 1699, by the Stat. ^a 10, 11 *W.* III. ⁿ Ch. 85.
c. 1. *Secondly*, the Stock of Sheep in that Kingdom §. 7.
had probably increased very much; and probably, in Proportion, much more than the Number of the People there. But to take for granted, that no Wool was used to be exported clandestinely from *Ireland* to foreign Parts, before the said Stat. 1699, is begging the Question extremely. On the contrary, we find it as much a common Complaint in the general *, for forty Years at least, before, as it has been, since the Year 1699; and with regard to those particular † Years, 1687, 1697 and

* As to Complaints in general, on this Head, prior to the Year 1699, See Chap. 32. §. 18. *Note.* Ch. 51. §. 2, 11. Chap. 55. §. 2. Chap. 56. §. 20. Chap. 57. §. 4. (*Fig.* 4.) Chap. 58. §. 12, 23. Chap. 61. §. 15. Chap. 64. §. 3. Chap. 66. §. 7, 21. Chap. 67. §. 5, 7. Chap. 75. §. 9, 13. Chap. 76. §. 2. Chap. 82. §. 7. Chap. 88. §. 1.
† As to the Year 1687, See Chap. 88. §. 7. Captain *Joseph Brooks*, &c.

For the Year 1697, See also Ch. 88. §. 7. Mr. *B. M.* And for the Period 1700—3. Captain *N*——. Again, the Author of a Tract intitled, *Pernicious Practices discovered of selling Wool to Foreigners*, printed 1743 (p. 3.) gives this Testimony. 'In *Ireland*, Anno 1702 to 1705, I perceived a more general and open Exportation of Wool to *France*.'

And thus we see, of what Use is this Collection of Memoirs towards ascertaining the Truth, or Falseness, of Things occasionally mentioned and insisted upon, as the Ground or Foundation of some political System, relating to Wool, &c.

For

and the Period 1700-3, we have seen Reasons to convince us, that, besides what was brought to *England*, Wool was exported from *Ireland* to foreign Parts, no less, then, than at other Times, before, and since.

Consequently, it is to be concluded that *Ireland* produces more spare Wool than according to either of these Gentlemen, and also sends out clandestinely, in Wool or Yarn, or Woolen Manufacture, more than they are willing to acknowledge. (See Ch. 126. P. S. particularly §. 30.)

C H A P. CXLIV.

A Scheme for a Trade through Russia to Persia.

Captain
Elton's
Paper.

1. *A Paper* * was given to Mr. FINCH at PETERSBURGH by Captain Elton, relating to the opening a Trade through Russia to Persia.

2. Captain

For Instance, the honourable Person (N^o. 6.) Heir to a great Estate in Ireland, as an Advocate for a free Woolen Trade from that Kingdom, endeavours to persuade us, that such a Liberty would effectually prevent the clandestine Exportation of Wool from thence; and to convince the English Gentlemen of this, he would have it believed, that the clandestine Exportation of Wool from Ireland, commenced since the Stat. in 1699, against exporting Woolen Manufacture from thence to foreign Parts, and by Reason thereof, and that it would therefore cease with the repealing of that Act; which is a Conclusion drawn from false Premises.

St. Petersburg, July 1740.

* 'The Northern Provinces of *Persia*, produce the most and best Sorts of raw Silk; which supplies not only the Manufactures of *Musbad* and the Southern Provinces, but, in a great Measure, *Turkey*.

'*Musbad*, now made the Seat of the *Persian* Empire; hath almost drained *Ispahan* of its Inhabitants; and being not quite 14 Days Journey for the Caravan, from the Port of *Astrabad*, is a very lucky Circumstance for the *British* Merchants to *Russia*; who on this Occasion have it in their

2. Captain Elton delivered also a second Paper * to Mr. FINCH.

3. Mr. FINCH having transmitted these Papers to the Duke of Newcastle, his Grace, by the King's Order, laid them before the Commissioners of Trade, who made

• their Power wholly to supply that Capital with *European*
• Commodities; particularly, with Woolen Goods, which
• the *Persians*, from the highest to the lowest, all esteem,
• and that so much that they wear Stockins of no Sort, but
• what are made of Woolen Cloth; and not only that Part
• of *Persia* might be served by *British* Merchants, but all
• the Cities in great and little *Bucharia*. In which it is
• evident they can have no Rivals, nor those Countries be
• supplied with *European* Commodities any other Way. It
• would be entirely a new Branch of Trade, and might
• shortly become a most important one; in which they could
• never be supplanted, so long as they can secure a Passage
• through *Russia*, and a Freedom of Navigation on the
• *Caspian*; both which it will ever be the Interest of the So-
• vereigns of *Russia* to grant to the Subjects of *Great-Bri-*
• *tain*. It would create a vast additional Consumption of
• our Woolen Manufactures, for which the Returns may
• be made in Gold, raw Silk, Cotton, *fine Wool*, Silk,
• Yarn, and other manufactured Commodities. It is also
• more than barely probable, that when the *British* Mer-
• chants shall have well established themselves in this Trade,
• in a few Years only, it must become a more beneficial
• Trade to *Great-Britain*, than the *Turkey* Trade is at
• present; as in this Trade a greater Quantity of Woolen
• Goods may be vended at a better Price, and that to
• Countries where the *British* Commerce hath never yet
• been extended, or ever can be extended by any other
• Canal, than that proposed; and from whence may be
• imported, besides others, the very same Commodities the
• *Turkey* Company now imports into *Great-Britain*, full
• Fifty *per Cent.* cheaper than they can do; and this last
• Consideration alone, surely might suffice to entitle the
• *British* *Russia* Merchants to the Freedom of importing
• such Commodities into *Great-Britain*, altho' therein they
• should chance to interfere with the Privileges of the *Turkey*
• Company.

* Which contained an Account of the Privileges, &c. necessary to be obtained of her Imperial Majesty's Cabinet Council, in order to facilitate this new proposed Trade.

made a Representation † to his Majesty, which was followed by an Act of Parliament, viz.

4. *As*

† *Viz.* ‘ To the King’s most excellent Majesty.

‘ *May it please your Majesty,*

Representation of the Commissioners of Trade, &c.

‘ In Obedience to your Majesty’s Commands, signified to us by his Grace the Duke of Newcastle, &c. We have taken into Consideration two Papers put into the Hands of Mr. Finch at Petersburg, by Captain Elton; and do find that they contain a Proposal to the Russia Company, for supplying *Muskad*, the present Capital of Persia, and the Countries adjacent, with all Sorts of Woolen Goods, to a far greater Degree, and at easier Rates than they are now vended there; and for investing our Returns to Great-Britain, in the best raw Silks and other Commodities produced in those Countries, near 50 per Cent. cheaper, than at present by the Way of Turkey.

Opinion of the Russia Company.

‘ Having on this Occasion been attended by Sir John Thompson Governor of the Russian Company, and also by several of the principal Merchants concerned in that Trade, we communicated to them Captain Elton’s Project, and have received their Opinion in Writing, on the Subject Matter thereof; wherein they inform us, that they conceived his Proposal deserved the utmost Attention.— That a Trade through Russia to Persia is certainly practicable, so far as the same is at present carried on by the Armenians, between Holland and Persia through Russia.— That this Branch of Trade, which will consist principally in the Exportation of Woolen Goods, and Importation of raw Silk, must be of singular Benefit to this Kingdom.— That the Sophy of Persia may possibly prohibit all Trade with Turkey, provided he can have a sufficient Demand for his Silk through Russia.— That the French do now chiefly supply Turkey with Woolen Goods, and gain upon us in that Trade every Day, and probably do and may, thro’ them, supply Persia; whereas by this easy Conveyance, we shall be enabled to under-sell them, and carry our Woolen Manufactures into all Parts of Persia, cheaper than they can.’

‘ They conclude with observing, That the only Objection that occurred to them against this Trade, was a Clause in the present Act of Navigation, by which they apprehended themselves debarred of that Liberty; and as the Restrictions of that Act make it necessary for them to apply to Parliament, they humbly hope, that considering how beneficial this Trade will be to the Kingdom, and that they can have no private Views,

Ch. 144. *Memoirs of Wool, &c.* 371

4. *An Act for opening a Trade to and from Persia.*
14 Geo. II. c. 36 *

CHAP.

' Views, nor any exclusive Trade from the rest of his Majesty's Subjects (any Person having a Right to be made free of the Company for five Pounds) that they should meet with Encouragement in their intended Application to Parliament, for an Exemption from that Clause in the aforesaid Act of Navigation, from whence the present Impediment arises.'

' Whereupon we humbly beg Leave to represent to your Majesty, That it appears to us, as well from Captain Elton's Papers, as from the Representation of the Russia Company, and our Discourse with them thereupon, that this Scheme for opening a new Branch of Trade to Persia through Russia, may be very beneficial to this Kingdom, and may deserve your Majesty's Royal Protection; but as no Steps can be made therein, 'till the Company shall have applied to Parliament, for an Exemption from that Clause in the Act of Navigation (whereby no Goods or Commodities that are of foreign Growth or Manufacture, can be brought from any Place or Country, but only from those of the said Growth, Production or Manufactory, or from those Ports where the said Goods and Commodities can only, or are, or usually have been first shipped for Transportation) we shall at present only observe to your Majesty, that when the said Application shall be made, the Advantages or Inconveniences that may attend this Channel of Commerce, will be thoroughly weighed and discussed.

Ch. 118:
§. 5.

** This Act recites, ' That whereas it may be of Advantage to this Kingdom, to open a Trade too and from Persia, through Russia, by promoting the Consumption of Woolen and other Manufactures thereof, if raw Silk and other Goods of the Growth, Produce and Manufacture of Persia, be permitted to be imported into this Kingdom, from Russia, in Return for such Woolen and other Manufactures, as shall be exported from hence into Russia, and from thence carried into Persia, and not otherwise.*

' And therefore enacts, ' That the Russia Company may import Persian Commodities, being purchased by Barter with British Manufactures, or with the Produce of such Manufactures exported to Russia, on the Oath of the Importer, any Thing to the contrary notwithstanding, in the said Clause of the Act 12 Car. II. c. 19.—with
A n n a Provide

C H A P. CXLV.

*The Consequences of Trade, &c.; of the
Woolen Trade in particular, &c.*

By a Draper of London, 1740.

1. **O**UR WOOL for *Clothing* is, to ALL THE WORLD, as much a NECESSARY of Life, as ANY THING ELSE, and more PECULIARLY the Growth of OUR OWN COUNTRY than any Thing; because, the middling Sort of CLOTHS, for the Use of the *Bulk of Mankind*, CANNOT be made *without it* (NOR ANY SORTS manufactured to any Perfection) and THEREFORE if we be wise enough to manufacture OUR OWN WOOL at home, we MUST have the Serving of ALL THE WORLD with *this Kind* of Woolen Manufacture.

2. Let us enquire into the Nature of the Woolen Manufactures, and we shall easily perceive how the Advantages

‘ Proviso against *Persian* Manufactures to be worn in this Kingdom.’

N. B. It has been said in the Public Papers (and, upon Enquiry, I find it true) that Captain *Elton*, the first Projector of this Scheme of Trade, being entrusted by some of the *English Russia* Merchants, with one or more Ships upon the *Caspian*, containing a rich Cargo of Goods for *Persia*, did run away with the whole.

But this shews only that these *Russia* Merchants were deceived in the Man; not they, or the Lords of Trade, &c. or the Legislature, in the *Thing itself*.

And as an Infant Trade is never without its Oppugners, and on the Score of *Self-Interest*, has constantly its secret as well as open Enemies; and (like an Infant Child in the Birth or Cradle) is too easily smothered; so this Miscarriage in the first Instance, brings to my Mind the Story of the *Phœnician* Pilot* and the Requital he met with: It induces me to suspect that some other trading Body in the World might, upon *Phœnician Principles*, think it worth their while to tempt Captain *Elton* to his egregious Perfidy, with some considerable additional Bribe, beyond that Booty which he had in his own Power and Custody.

vantages of them come to be so Superior to those of any other Branch of Business. The Riches of a Nation arise out of the Labour of the People exported to foreign Markets. If our People can be employed, and we can find Custom abroad for the Goods manufactured by them; then the more populous we are, the richer we are. But a Number of People unemployed, are a Burthen, as this Nation feels very sensibly at present. But if our Wool were kept and manufactured at home, all our People might be employed in the Woolen Manufactures, and the Wages paid by Foreigners in the Purchase of the Goods. I shall give the Reader a small Specimen of the Number of Hands employed in manufacturing our Wool, which by Multiplication would shew him, how many the whole Growth of our Country would employ.

3. For Instance, three Packs of Wool manufactured into Broad Cloths, &c. on a moderate Computation, one Sort with another, employ 450 Persons a Week (I might say a great many more, almost 600, but I am willing to keep within Bounds) who upon an Average, will earn, each Person, 5 s. a Week, the whole amounting to 112 l. 10 s. Now the Growth of *Great Britain* and *Ireland* being above a Million of Packs (as will be proved) if three Packs will employ 450 Hands, and their Labour produces 112 l. 10 s. a Week, any one that understands Figures may soon see how many * a Million of Packs will employ, and how much they will earn in a Week.

4. I appeal

* If three Packs of Wool, upon a Medium, will employ 450 Persons a Week, in that Case (accounting 50 working Weeks in a Year, which I think is one Fifth more than can be accounted of, all Accidents and Avocations considered) a Million Packs of Wool will be Employment for *three Millions* of People; which probably is one Fourth of the whole Number in *Great-Britain* and *Ireland*. But if we reckon, upon an Average, only 40 * working Weeks in a Year to this Class of People, then a Million Packs will employ 3,750,000 Persons; nearly, if not fully, a Third of the whole Community. See Ch. 177. §. 29. Note.

In this View of Things, and considering how positive this Writer is, that 500,000 Packs of raw Wool was then
A a 3 Yearly

4. I appeal now to the Gentlemen in the Silken Business, whether that can employ so many, and whether we had not better employ all the Hands we can spare, in the Woolen Manufacturies, and purchase Silken Goods manufactured, than manufacture them ourselves; forasmuch as the Labour of the Hands employed in manufacturing Wool, would be more than we should give Foreigners for their Labour in manufacturing Silk. Besides, the Silken Goods that we make at home, are only for

Yearly exported; moreover, observing some other Appearances not unfavourable to such an Opinion (and something like which is to be found among Writers on this Subject) I was once, under a Persuasion that there could not immediately be found Hands sufficient to work up all the Wool of Great-Britain and Ireland, with what is usually imported from Spain; consequently that a Revulsion of so extraordinary a Quantity as 500,000 Packs, must be attended with very bad Consequences to the Grower and to the whole Landed Interest, indeed to the whole Kingdom.

Memoirs: But having took up that Opinion from reading this *The Ground* AUTHOR, the first Book that fell into my Hands concerning WOOL (and by which Tract I was induced to study the Subject, not imagining that any Person could write under such a Title (THE DRAPER OF LONDON) the same; in Terms so positive and peremptory, touching the Numbers of Sheep commonly depastured, and the Quantity of Wool usually Reason for grown in England, and so large a Part thereof ordinarily exported; and that, seemingly, with so much Countenance from the Cities of London and Westminster, and other great trading Places, without being a Person of Credit, and without some good Authority, as a Foundation to go upon: So I here lay down this same Opinion again, upon a Conviction that *The Draper of London* had no good Authority for what he had advanced, either about the Number of Sheep depastured, or the Quantity of Wool produced Yearly in Great-Britain and Ireland, or of Wool ordinarily exported from thence; but that having taken the Affair wholly upon Trust, from *Messieurs Webber and London*, he was grossly imposed upon, and by that Means induced to employ a good Pen in very bad Work.

But though I have thus freely given up my — Opinion aforesaid, yet I do it, not from a Belief that any near Calculation can be made, either of the whole Quantity of Wool grown, or of the whole Number of Persons necessary to the Manufacture thereof. These being Difficulties, in which

for our own Consumption; consequently, none of them being exported, no Profit can arise to us from the Labour employed in them.

5. To shew this Matter in another Light; the highest Price that Wool bears at present, is 3 *l.* a Pack; the Product therefore of twenty Packs exported to *France*, unmanufactured, will be no more than 100 *l.* But twenty Packs in *King William's*, and *Queen Anne's* Reign, when we manufactured it ourselves, sold for 12 to 16 *l.* a Pack.

which neither the *Smithfield Toll Books*, nor the Number of Acres, nor the Knowledge of what Number of Hands a Pack of Wool will employ in this or that Kind of Work, will afford sufficient Light; because different Lands produce very different Quantities of Wool, and different Sorts of Manufacture employ a very different Number of Hands; and as it is impossible to ascertain Proportions any Thing nearly in this Case: So, tho' some of these Extremes are, or may be tolerably well known, yet there is no fixing a Medium.

And THEREFORE I give up my former Opinion, not to any particular Calculations, but BECAUSE I am morally persuaded that there is nothing like either 500,000, or even 300,000 Packs of Wool in any one Year exported unmanufactured. And the Ground of this my Persuasion is, BECAUSE I am sensible that other Countries, besides *Great-Britain* and *Ireland*, do abound in Wool, and that, for this Reason, there is no concluding any Thing certainly concerning the Quantity of Wool run from *Great-Britain* and *Ireland*, from the State of the Woollen Manufactures in *France*, *Holland*, *Germany*, &c. or from any Thing our *English* Traders have said concerning the same, as if supported in a great Measure by *English* and *Irish* Wool.

NEVERTHELESS, I still do think that there is so much Wool ordinarily exported from *Great-Britain* and *Ireland*, that, was it effectually prevented, without, at the same Time, giving some fresh Vent to the Manufacture, more than that Incident would, in its own Nature procure; the Quantity of Wool grown, would be found so far too great for the Trade of *England* (in that Case) as that the Price of Wool would be very much abated. And this I think, may be deduced from the Instance of the State of the *British* Woollen Trade, and the Price of Wool in *England*, during the Effects of the Plague at *Marseilles*, considered, with all its Circumstances, in their true and proper Light.

a Pack. Taking it at the lowest, at 12*l.* a Pack; which Price Wool would again yield the Sheep Master, in three or four Years Time (if the Exportation of it were stopped) the twenty Packs which now sell for no more than 100*l.* would sell for 240*l.* which makes 140*l.* Difference to the Sheep Master only. The Labour in manufacturing these twenty Packs, at 3*s.* each Pound of Wool upon an Average (tho' it really comes to 5*s.*) amounts to 720*l.* So that the whole Loss to the Nation, is 860*l.* in every twenty Packs that are exported unmanufactured. But this is not all. The 100*l.* which the *French* give for these twenty Packs of Wool, is not paid in Specie, but in Silks, Brandy, &c. Duty free. Now if we lose, and give the *French*, in every twenty Packs of Wool exported to them unmanufactured, 860*l.* what must be the Consequence of giving them so many 100,000 Packs as we give them yearly?

6. But the Profits arising from the Woollen Manufactures will be further set forth under the next Head of Enquiry, from a Calculation of Mr. *London's*.

Mr. *London* computes, that all our Wool and Labour that goes abroad, does not amount to above fourteen Millions * Sterling. How much larger they were in 1698, any one may imagine, from what Mr. *Webber* has testified upon his own Knowledge, (pag. 17. of his five Letters) He tells us there, that at *Bristol* Fair only, in eight Days Time, the *Dutch* and *Spanish* Merchants and Factors, bought above 150,000 Pounds worth of Woollen Goods, besides what was carried from *Bridge-water* in a *Dutch* Dogger. Upon which he observes very justly, that we have all imaginable Reason to think that *Minehead*, &c. sold proportionable Quantities for Exportation. We have none of those *Dutch* and *Spanish* Merchants and Factors going, as they us'd to do, to the Manufacturers Houses in the Country; they are forced to send their Goods to *Blackwell Hall*, there to pay House

* Not above 14 Millions Sterling! If this Writer had consulted the *British Merchant*, instead of Mr. *London*, he would have found that so lately as 1713, far from exporting to the Value of 14 Millions in the single Article of *Woollen Manufacture*. All our annual Exportations to foreign Countries, both of our own and foreign Goods, did not amount to seven Millions.

Houfe Rent, &c. These known Facts undeniably prove a vast Decay of Trade.

7. The State of foreign Coin among us, of which we have none, unless it be *Portugal Money*, is another plain Proof, that by the Loss of our Woollen Trade, the Balance of all Nations is against us. In *France*, *English* Guineas are as common as *Portugal* Pieces are here. The present great Scarcity of our own Coin, and the Increase of the Number of our Poor, shews, ^{See} the same beyond Contradiction. Let any one examine Ch. 56. particularly the State of those Towns, where the Woollen ^{5.25. Note.} Manufactures have been carried on; and he will see the most flourishing Towns reduced to Beggary by the Loss of their Trade. It is possible, that in some few Places, the Woollen Business may have been lower than at present; but then it is not as high as it has been even in those Places; neither if it were otherwise, would a particular Instance or two signify any Thing to the general State of the Kingdom.

8. If we have lost our Woollen Trade, into what Hands is it fallen? Several Nations have come in for a Share of the Plunder; but *France* has the Bulk of it; as appears by Mr. *Mun's* Journal of the State of their ^{Ch. 140.} Manufactures in the Year 1732; which must be greatly improved since. And therefore, to shew at one View, our Loss and their Gain, I shall transcribe a Calculation from Mr. *London's* Pamphlet. According to a very modest Computation, the *French* have yearly 500,000 Packs of our Wool unmanufactured, with which they work up twice as much of their own. The immense Detriment arising from hence to us, and the still larger Profit accruing to them, he sets forth in the following Manner.

A Million Packs of Wool (for so much is computed to be grown here) as sold when confined to our own Manufactures at 16 l.		£
		16,000,000
The Labour and Profit in working it at such Times, at 40 l.		40,000,000
Total.		56,000,000

As now sold, suffered to go abroad —	£ 4,000,000
The Labour and Profit of 500,000 Packs, manufactured under the Disadvantages mentioned, at half Wages, 20 <i>l.</i> per Pack — — — — —	10,000,000
Total —	14,000,000

Is to our Disadvantage — — — £ 42,000,000.

besides what the landed Interest suffers by the Poor, and Rates made to maintain them. On the other hand, *France*, by getting over 500,000 Packs of our Wool, can work up a Million and half; it being on all hands agreed, that one Pack of ours is sufficient to work up two of theirs; and suppose we reckon but 35 *l.* a Pack for their Labour in working it, then the Labour of a Million and half of Packs, at 35 *l.* per Pack, amount to 52 Millions and half Sterling. And that they do work up so much, may well be supposed; for they will certainly import no more of our Wool than is absolutely necessary for them. *

9. I have

* Here the *Draper*, to support his Allegations, enters into a Computation of the Quantity of Wool grown yearly in *Great Britain* and *Ireland*; which he makes to be Packs 1,274,000, besides Vel Wool and that of Lambs. 'It appears (*says he*) by the *Toll Books*, that 36000 Sheep and a Lamb are brought weekly to *Smithfield*.'

From this he takes his Computation, as above; on which has been made the following Remark:

G. M.
vol. 12. p. 2. 'But we are informed, the Sheep and Lambs brought to *Smithfield*, by the said *Toll Books*, on an Average, are no more, one Week with another, than 12,000. This, according to his own Method of calculating, will reduce our yearly Produce of Wool to less than 425,000 Packs. Yet (*says he*) the *French* get, on a moderate Computation, 500,000 Packs of our Wool yearly; he ought therefore to reconsider this Point.

Page 86. 'Total Number of Sheep and Lambs sold in *Smithfield*, taken from the *Toll Books* of the Years 1735, 1738, viz.
'Total 1735, 642,420; (1738) 610,180.

'Tho'

9. I have already computed the Profit arising from the Labour of manufacturing a Million of Packs only; shall here subjoin a Calculation of the Share Foreigners would pay of this Profit to us. Two hundred and fifty thousand Packs yearly, the fourth Part of our Produce, will cloath more than the Number of our Inhabitants are supposed to amount to. So that three Parts in four of our Manufacture would be exported, and bring home Money in Return, to the Amount of no less than THIRTY MILLIONS, besides the Value of the Wool itself, which is reckoned at TWENTY MILLIONS more, in all amounting to FORTY TWO MILLIONS; all arising from one single Branch of our Trade; and far exceeding all the Branches of Trade, belonging to this or any other Nation. If therefore we were so wise and just to ourselves, as to preserve this Blessing, we might be the richest and most powerful Nation in the whole World. Page 12.

10. Some Gentlemen are of Opinion, that we might recover our Woollen Trade, by reducing the Price of Labour, &c. But why should we be at the trouble of contriving to go cheap to Market as the *French*, and have the Price of our Goods beat down, when we can at once hinder them from going to Market at all, and by having the Market to OURSELVES, be able to fix OUR OWN Price? But (say they) if it be thus necessary to prevent the Exportation of Wool, how can it be done? A Scheme of Mr. *Webber's* has been offered and approved as effectual. He has had a Charter granted him for putting it in Execution*; and only wants an Act of Parliament to confirm Page 17.

* 'Tho' the Markets of these Years are not low, the Medium does not exceed 12,000 per Week; yet Mr. *Webber* has lately told the House of Commons, as his Friend the Author of *The Consequences of Trade, &c.* had before, the Publick, that 36000 Lambs and Sheep were sold, one Week with another, in *Smithfield*, and killed for the Use of the Metropolis. They are therefore desired to consider such a gross fundamental Mistake, from whence they calculate not only the People and Wool of *Great Britain* and *Ireland*, but the Loss of the Nation, and the great Benefit to arise from their Scheme.'

* 'When the Petitions relating to this Affair were referred, as usual, to his Majesty's Attorney General at that

firm it, which has been promised him, but delayed from Time to Time. He has found out what no body else could contrive, though many have racked their Inventions ever since Queen Elizabeth's Time. And are 28 Millions lost by us every Year, and above twice as much gained by our Enemies, such a Trifle, that we can safely let Session after Session, slip without putting a Stop to this Evil? In the Name of every Thing that is sensible and prudent, what can the People of this Kingdom mean? Am I warm? The Cause deserves it. Our ALL is at Stake, and if Lost, can never be retrieved. If I have exaggerated, let any one shew it, and I dare promise to throw away any Pen, and engage never to get another to disturb the Publick with.

Page 26.

Page 27.

11. That this Pamphlet may not be unknown, I am determined to circulate at my own Expence, at least, a Thousand of them, and if any one, after reading it, shall be disposed to give away any in proper Places, he shall have half a Dozen at half Price. Whether the Citizens of London, or any others of Ability will follow my Example, and give any Thing towards saving their Country from Ruin, they only must determine.

12. P. S.

Ed Hard-
wick's
Opinion
(when At-
torney Ge-
neral) of
a Registry
for Wool
by a Char-
ter.

that Time (now the Lord Chancellor) for him to consider of them, and make his Report thereupon; he did accordingly certify to his Majesty, (after having had several of the Petitioners before him, as well as Mr. Webber himself) *That the Woollen Manufacture being the most beneficial and extensive of all the Manufactures of this Kingdom, and the Business of the Wool-combers being a very material Article of that Trade, carried on by great Multitudes of People, spread over all Parts of England, in Places very remote from one another, and in that respect scarce possible to be reduced under one general Management; and no Experiment having hitherto been made, of putting any Branch of this important Manufacture into a Corporation to extend throughout England, the attempting whereof might be attended with Consequences which could not be foreseen, he was humbly of Opinion, that it was not advisable for his Majesty to grant such a Charter as was desired.* Thus a Stop was put to that Affair.

*Remarks upon Mr. Webber and
the Draper, 1741. p. 36.*

12. P. S. To put the most candid Construction upon this Performance, The Draper, &c. (for I have omitted much that was inflammatory and reflecting) Here is an Appearance of the greatest Zeal, and the least Knowledge upon this Subject, that can possibly be shewn or imagined; but,

As this Author builds the least of his Errors and Extravagances upon Mr. Webber, whom I have considered, there is less Occasion to spend Time in remarking upon him (the Draper of London.) It is sufficient to observe that this Treatise, being calculated to raise the Passions of the People; and therefore industriously spread throughout the Kingdom, did produce in the next, which was the last Session of the last Parliament, so many Applications, in Reference to the Business of Wool, as gave Rise to a Committee; the Result whereof was, A Report, 'That the Exportation of Wool could not be prevented by any Thing less than an universal Registry.' A Scheme for which Purpose was ordered to be prepared by the Lords Commissioners of Trade, &c. against the next Session: But while this was doing, the following Letter appeared in Public.

13. Sir, 'The Petition of the Lord Mayor, &c. G. M. and Petitions from many other Places presented to the vol. 11. House of Commons, praying them to take into Consideration, the clandestine Exportation of Wool, have been referred to a Committee, Mr. Webber called in, and asked several Questions; several Objections have been made to his Scheme, or Method; in general, that it is not practicable. A Manufacturer * has published a just Observation in the Daily Advertiser, in which he says, 'A Clause in the late Act for preventing the exporting Wool (said to be obtained by Mr. W——r) hinders the Exportation of small Skains or Cruels, under Pretence that they are capable of being reduced * into Wool; by which 10,000 Persons are reduced

* Mr. Benj. White.

* 'As to Skeens or Cruel Yarn, it is impossible to reduce it to Wool: It is doubled, twisted, and twice thrown up on the Mill, then scoured and dyed; nor can any other Use be made of it, than that to which it is applied in the Nunneries abroad. It is sent away in small Skeens ready to work up with the Needle. I was informed that some of

‘ duced unto Beggary, and great Sums left to the Nation.
 ‘ For a Pound of Wool is but 6 d. which thus manu-
 ‘ factured, amounts to from 3 to 5 s.; and how it could
 ‘ be reduced to Wool *, to any Profit, is a Mystery.’

‘ Another

‘ of it, which was seized and sold to a Weaver at the
 ‘ Custom-House, proved disadvantageous to him, for he
 ‘ could neither make Warp nor Woof of it for any kind of
 ‘ Stuff. And as it is sold in France for 7 s. per Pound, I
 ‘ would be glad to know what Sort of Wares can be made
 ‘ of Yarn, which before the weaving, costs so much. There
 ‘ should be Liberty to export that Commodity, provided
 ‘ two or three Searchers were appointed on Oath, at the
 ‘ Custom-House, to examine the Worsted at some publick
 ‘ Hall in London, on an appointed Day, once in a Week,
 ‘ and to receive one Half-penny per Pound for their Trou-
 ‘ ble. As to unmanufactured Wool, I know no Method
 ‘ so proper as to send all by Land, except Irish Wool or
 ‘ Yarn: and that should be sent in Register Ships belonging
 ‘ to the Crown. The Freight to be settled, and Certificates
 ‘ taken of the Lading in Ireland, and Landing in Eng-
 ‘ land.’

Your humble Servant,

Benjamin White.

‘ P. S. Mr. Webber and Mr. London declared before the
 ‘ House of Commons, that neither the Officers of Excise
 ‘ nor Customs would faithfully discharge the Trust, and
 ‘ therefore were improper Persons [to have the Care of pre-
 ‘ venting the Exportation of Wool.]

*I suppose Mr. Webber might think it necessary to say thus
 much, with a View of thereby introducing himself, and Pa-
 tentees of his Nomination, into that Trust. But supposing it
 true, that the Officers of Excise and Customs were false to
 their Trust in the Case of Wool, it shews a Temptation to be
 so. And therefore the Objection holds equally against Paten-
 tees*, as against any other Persons. For though one Man
 may have more Integrity than another Man; yet to affirm
 that one Class of Men are better to be trusted than another
 Class in like Circumstances, is extreme Arrogance.*

* See
 Ch. 55.
 §. 5.

‘ Upon whatever Reasons the Parliament might see
 proper to insert a Clause for prohibiting the Exportation of
 ‘ *Cruels*, I cannot think it was, from an Opinion that those
 ‘ *Cruels* could be reduced to Wool again; with any Profit
 especially.

‘ Another Scheme to keep our Wool at home, was offered to Parliament, signed S. M. which proposes to appoint *Warehouses throughout this Kingdom and Ireland, to receive all the Wool, also Clerks to register it, &c. with a Tax of 2s. a Week upon every Loom towards the Expence of the same.*’ To this it is objected, that it would require an immense Sum, and after all, only embarrass Trade. The Means therefore of accomplishing this great End are yet undetermined; and as the Importance of the Affair deserves the closest Attention, it is hoped that every Man, whose manner of Life has enabled him to obtain any Knowledge of it, will communicate his Opinion*.

This Letter seems to have produced the Publication of the following SCHEMES. * See Ch. 127. §. 1, 2.

C H A P. CXLVI.

A short View of several Schemes, 1740–1.

* NUMB. I.

1. **A** Small Duty upon Wool, will, in my Opinion, most effectually prevent the Exportation of it.

2. I propose therefore, 1. That one Shilling a Ton be laid upon Wool. 2. Every Man that has Sheep, shall

especially. Neither do I imagine, that, as a Reason for prohibiting the Exportation of common Yarn or Worsted; they thought it capable (when once fairly spun) of being unravelled into Wool again, with any Advantage; for even that is a most absurd Notion; and yet it is not only too generally swallowed, (and it serves to give a very false Idea of the Properties of *English* and *Irish* Wool) but it is what some who would be thought to be most knowing, expressly give into; and particularly Mr. Lowndes, in his Scheme printed 1745. *By Order of the House of Commons.* * Page 13.

* This is taken from a Pamphlet, entitled *Short Speculations on the present Decay of the Woollen Manufacture*; according to which, ‘ the high Rates of Commissions to the Factors

shall on a Day appointed, deliver upon Oath to an exact List of his Sheep, &c. with the Weight of Wool he has shorn. Which Affidavit shall be delivered to him in Writing, by whose Fee shall be one Shilling. 3. Every Person that pulls Wool, as Felmongers, &c. shall, in like manner, once every Year. 4. A Transcript, with an Extract of these Affidavits, shall be fixed on the Doors of the Parish Church. 5. The Money to be collected before *Michaelmas* in every Year. 6. Officers (who shall be upon Oath) or Owners guilty of Falsehood, to be punished as the Legislature shall direct. 7. Owner of Sheep, or Felmonger neglecting to give in the requisite Account, to forfeit, &c. 8. The Receiver General shall direct the Collectors of the Land-Tax to gather the Money; which shall be remitted to the Commissioners; who shall be five in Number; two chose by the King; one by the Commons; one by the Mayor and Aldermen, and one by the Common Council of *London*, with a Salary of 200*l.* each. 9. The Commissioners shall deliver their

‘ Factors of *Blackwel-Hall*, which amounts to 4 *per Cent.*
‘ is a great Incumbrance upon the Sale of our coarse Cloths,
‘ in which chiefly we are rivalled by the *French*. The
‘ Factors contend every Spring for the Honour of bringing
‘ the largest Quantities of Cloth to the Market, and incite
‘ the Clothiers, who depend upon them, to make more
‘ than at other Times; by which the Wages of the Work-
‘ men are raised higher than the Cloth will allow, and the
‘ Cloth by hasty Workmanship made worse, the Markets
‘ are glutted, our Manufactures disgraced, our Workmen
‘ made luxurious in the Summer, and starved in Winter.
‘ The Factors sell the Cloth for less than they are directed
‘ by the Owner, who dreading their Combination against
‘ him, submits to the Injury, without Application to Ju-
‘ stice. When a Clothier becomes Bankrupt, the Factor
‘ secures himself, and defrauds the Country. The *English*
‘ *Turkey Company* pay twice the Sum to their Factors for
‘ Commissions, that is paid by the *French*, and therefore
‘ receive sometimes 1500*l.* with an Apprentice, on Con-
‘ dition that he shall repay himself by being sent out Fa-
‘ ctor. The *Turkey Company* is suspected of obstructing,
‘ rather than promoting the Sale of our Cloth; a Disad-
‘ vantage that might be removed by opening a free Trade
‘ to *Turky*.’

Ch. 146. *Memoirs of Wool, &c.* 385

their Accounts yearly upon Oath, to the *House of Commons*. 10. The Profits of the Wool Tax shall be employed in Bounties on that Cloth, which is carried to Markets where the *French* rival us.

3. *This Duty will advance the Price of Wool 7 l. per Cent. ; which with the Bounty proposed, will entirely stop the Progress of their Woolen Trade.*

* N U M B. II.

1. The first Step to prevent the Exportation of Wool, is to take away the Temptation to it, by buying it at Home.

2. To this purpose it may be enacted, 1. That no Owner of Sheep, Felmonger, &c. shall sell their Wool, but at an appointed Market. 2. That Persons appointed shall buy the Wool at near double the present Price, and sell it out at Markets, &c. appointed, at a stated Profit. 3. That the Agents shall be paid according to the Business they transact. 4. That the Wool be stocked in Towns where it is to be sold. 5. That Agents send weekly Accounts of their Transactions to the Commissioners of the Woolen Manufacture. 6. That the Agents pay for the Wool, not in Money, but in Bills, to be exchanged for Money with the Collectors of the Revenue. 7. That the Manufacturers may purchase Wool with Goods manufactured, and sent up to the Commissioners. 8. The Goods taken by the Commissioners, to be sold once a Month for Exportation, at *stated Prices*. 9. The Punishment for Exportation of Wool, to be a heavy

* This is taken from an Essay, by *Cornelius Strongcastle*, who thinks ' the Importation of Cotton, and the Use of ' Cotton Manufactures, the Importation of *Russia* Drabs, ' and of *Irish* and *Scotch* Worsted, have contributed to the ' Exportation of our Wool, by lessening the Consumption ' at home ; also that the Depravation of our Manufactures, ' (by stretching Cloths, and by taking out the finer Wool ' and selling it to *France*, a Practice of some Manufacturers) ' hath discredited our Traders at foreign Markets ; as likewise the Exportation of Wool to *France* in the Form of ' Wadding for Cloaths, under the Pretence that it is manufactured ; it being easily reduced to Wool.'

heavy Fine, and the Informer receive a Pension for Life. 10. A high Duty upon all other Manufactures, printed Linen, and *Russia* Diaper; which will promote the Consumption of our Wool. 11. Such an Advance on *Irish* and *Scotch* Wool, as may take away the Temptation to export it. 12. A careful Inspection by publick Officers, of Goods made for Exportation.

* N U M B. III.

1. That our Wool shall be put under an Excise. 2. That the Excise on Soap, Candles, Leather, &c. be taken off, and in its stead, an Excise of $\frac{1}{3}$ of its Value laid upon Wool. 3. That an Account shall be given of the Wool in Hand, an Entry made by Growers at the *Excise-Office*, of Sheep, before they are shorn; and Information given of the Day when they shall shear; at which Time, a proper Officer shall attend, and take an Account of the Wool, from a sworn Wool-winder, who shall wind and weigh it. 4. That when the Wool is to be sold, the Seller and Buyer shall at the *Excise-Office*, enter their Names, the Quantity and Price; paying the Duty. 5. And if the Price specified, is suspected to be under the real Value, the Officer may take it at the Price; giving the Buyer a Profit of five *per Cent.*; which Wool, when sold again, shall be liable to a Tax, as if it had not been sold before. 6. That the Farmer shall be able to recover from the Buyer of the Wool, only the Price at which it is entered, &c. 7. That the Buyer shall not remove the Wool without a Permit, of which the Officer who grants it, shall inform the Officer of the Place to which it is to be carried. 8. And in this Manner being conveyed to the Manufacturer, he shall at every Sitting, give an Account of the Wool in his Hands, which shall likewise be subject to Surveys; and the same shall be done by Felmongers, &c. 9. No *British* Wool shall be carried Coastwise, or put on Board any Ship or Vessel (Ferry Boats crossing an Inland River excepted). 10. *Irish* Wool to be imported only from and to certain Ports, in Ships appointed for that Purpose.

11. No

* This is an Extract from a Pamphlet entitled, *An impartial Enquiry, &c.* By J. Gee.

1. No *British Wool* to be exported to *Jersey, Guernsey, Alderney, or Sark.*

C H A P. CXLVII.

Observations on the several Schemes in the foregoing Chapter.

N U M B. I.

THE Author of this Scheme is fundamentally mistaken, in taking for granted, that a general duty on Wool, of one Shilling *per Tod*, would be a means of rendering that Commodity one Jot dearer; otherwise than as being so far, a Discouragement to the growing of Wool, it might contribute to make it scarcer. his Duty, in every other Respect, would be in the nature of an additional *Land Tax*. And I believe the Nation has not found that a *Land Tax* has contributed any thing to the Price of Wool.

But though a Tax of one Shilling *per Tod* on Wool, could have rendered it so much dearer; yet, if it advanced the Price for Exportation, the Price for home use also being equally advanced at the same Time by the same Means, the Difference of 7 *per Cent.* was but imaginary.

As to the Article proposed, of a *Bounty* on Drapery exported, I confess something might be expected from such a Policy.

N U M B. II.

2. The Author hath said all in few Words, viz. 2 Ch. 146. That the first Step to prevent the Exportation of Wool N^o. 2. is, *to take away the TEMPTATION to it, by buying it at home, at a sufficient high Price.* But then the Method, by which he has proposed to do this, is so much out of the common Course of Trade, and gives such liberty for Fraud and Oppression, that the Remedy would go near to be worse than the Disease; rendering
B b 2. Commerce,

Commerce, in some Views, precarious; in other wholly impracticable.

- * See
Ch. 146.
N^o 2.
(Fig. 8.)
- For Instance (Fig. 8. *) ‘Goods taken by the Comm^{rs} *‘sioners, to be sold once a Month for Exportation at fixed ‘Prices.’* Does not this Policy proceed very much up that Notion we often meet with, *That the English may have it in their Power to dispose of their Woolen Goods abroad, at THEIR OWN PRICES?* Than which nothing is more chimerical and false

NUMB. III.

- * Ch. 146.
N^o 3.
3. A great Part of this Scheme, viz. the * Regift conducted in the Method of the Excise, seems to have been adopted from Mr. Cary^b. But as it has been so very justly, ‘*That the first Step to prevent the Exportation of Wool is, to take away the Temptation to it*’; and
- † Ch. 114.
§. 6.
- * Ch. 146.
N^o 2.
§. 1.
- Mr. Gee has been more particular on that Head, than in any other Writers, in order to have the Publick believe not only *how great the Temptation is, but whence it arises* I shall therefore give his Sentiments, as to that Particular a more distinct Consideration, in the next following Chapter.

C H A P. CXLVIII.

Observations on some Passages in a Treatise entitled, An impartial Enquiry, &c. By J. Gee.

1. **T**HIS Writer says, ‘The Cause of the Exportation of Wool is, the immense Price, at which the *French* can purchase it;’ as he has undertook to shew, in a way that has been called *judicious*.
 2. I don’t know how it comes to pass: But we in *England* (tho’ in other Regards, a sober, discreet People) are apt to be taken with what is marvelous and romantic on this Head; and this Writer exceeds, in that Sense
- * Ch. 145.
- all that I have met with, next to the *Draper of London*. His Manner of reasoning is this: ‘One Pack of British

‘ or *Irish*, will work up three ordinary, or four Packs of
 ‘ the best *French Wool*; and therefore every one Pack
 ‘ of OURS, which THEY manufacture, brings four or
 ‘ five into the Markets. The prodigious Increase of
 ‘ Goods which this occasions, and the Reduction of
 ‘ Prices which hereupon ensue, in Conjunction with the
 ‘ *French* manufacturing cheaper than we do, is the Rea-
 ‘ son of _____ and that THEY can afford to give *ten*
 ‘ or *twelve hundred* per Cent. Profit, for our *Wool*, rather
 ‘ than want it.’ ‘ The *French* (says he) can afford to
 ‘ give 78 l. a Pack for *British* and *Irish Wool*; and when
 ‘ that is done, sell their Goods cheaper in foreign Mar-
 ‘ kets than we can afford to do. — Our *Wool* is now
 ‘ manufactured at 20 l. a Pack; owing to a Reduction of
 ‘ Wages; and our best *Wool*, which used to be appro-
 ‘ priated to the making of fine Goods, is chiefly appli-
 ‘ ed to low priced Goods; which otherwise would bring
 ‘ our Manufactures to 40 l. a Pack.’

3. Upon the Supposition of such a possible Advance in the
 Price of the Peoples Labour (having taken it for granted that
 there are grown in Great Britain and Ireland 900,000
 Packs of *Wool* yearly) he lays down the following Scheme of
 Gain to the Nation, viz.

‘ By an Advance upon the 225,000 Packs	£
‘ we now manufacture for Exportation,	4,500,000
‘ In manufacturing 450,000 Packs at 40 l.	
‘ a Pack, _____	18,000,000
‘ By Advance of <i>Wool</i> to double the Price,	3,375,000
‘ By Exchange of Duties, _____	1,125,000
Total —	32,220,000

4. Thus does this Writer (like the *Draper of London*^d) Ch. 145.
 dispense MILLIONS, as if *Pounds Sterling* were *Hedge-*
Crabs. And if, as Mr. *Laybourne* has judiciously obser-
 ved hereon, ‘ we could enrich the Nation by a Dexte- * *Traffs on*
 ‘ rity in Computation, it would be a pretty easy Way of *Wool, &c.*
 ‘ doing * it.’ 1744-

B b 3

5. The

* ‘ Many Persons have been misled by Men, who think
 ‘ they can compute; because they can put Figures toge-
 ‘ ther.’

Davenport of the publick Revenue, Part I. p. 151.

5. The chief Foundation, it is observable, which Mr. Gee builds upon, is, that Legendary Notion, ‘*That the French particularly are not able to manufacture their Wool to any Advantage, without a Mixture of English, or Irish Wool.*’

6. In this Notion, ’tis true, Mr. Gee is not singular: It has been repeated from one Writer to another; echoed over and over again; and yet has no one Person attempted to account for it in any satisfactory, rational Way, unless Mr. Gee may be thought to have done so.

7. For that much of the *French*, and other foreign Wool is coarse, or attended with a Stichel Hair (as the
 § Ch. 140. Author of *Observations on British Wool*, &c. ‘says it is
 §. 1. though (so far as true) it be an Argument of the Superiority of some *English* and *Irish* Wools, to *such*; yet, don’t I think it any Proof at all, of what is commonly advanced, about the supposed Benefits in *English* Wool, for Mixture with *those coarse Stichel Hair Wools*:

8. But this Doctrine Mr. Gee (like Mr. *Wolke*) clinches with the following Assertion, as an undoubted Matter of Fact, and decisive in the Case (which, if true, it would go near to be) viz. ‘*When Ships lay Quarantine, (meaning the Time of the Plague at Marseilles) Wool advanced from 15 to 30 s. per Tod.*’

9. This is Mr. Gee’s Medium, for proving (which he affirms) ‘*That when Foreigners can’t have our WOOL, we may fix our GOODS at what Rate we please, and dispose of them at whatever Rates we think proper to fix them.*’ A tempting Circumstance, was it but true! Now if, granting the Premises, the Conclusion is admitted; what is to be concluded from the Reverse of those Premises, but the Reverse of that Conclusion?

10. The Fact alledged concerning the Price of Wool, at the Period mentioned, *is not true*; but the Reverse thereof is. And further, if Persons may take that Liberty, and will allow themselves to use their own Reason in this Case, they will consider, that *French Wool* either is, or is not the *coarse useless Stuff* which it is so commonly represented to be. If it is not, the Argument about the great Advantage to be made in *France*, of *English Wool*, by mixing, certainly stands for nothing.
 And

And if it is true that *French Wool* is, much of it, coarse (as no doubt is the Case) like that of some Part of *Norfolk*, or worse; though I am no Manufacturer, I dare challenge the most skilful Person and experienced in that Way, provided he has common Modesty, to tell me, how a major Part, or even a less Proportion of very coarse Wool, mixed with what is much finer, can be so managed, as to make Goods, of the same Fashion or Sort, any way comparable to those that, with *equal Care and Skill*, shall be made *all of the finer and better Sort of Wool*. Would not that be, to *expect Grapes of Thorns, and Figs of Thistle?*

11. Or, supposing it true, that the coarser *French Wool*, in order to an useful Manufacture, does want to be mixed with some other that is finer and better, why must that necessarily be *English or Irish Wool*? When, as we have seen ^a, and shall see yet further, not only ^b Ch. 120, *France* itself produces fine Wool in some Plenty, but many other, most Parts indeed of *Europe, Asia, Africa, and America*, afford Wool of various Kinds, and in great Abundance. Further, in regard to the Business of mixing Wools; tho' that indeed, we shall see ^b, is much ^b Ch. 151, practised in *France*, yet not otherwise, than as the same ^c is done in *England*.

12. In many Species of Goods, the Warp or Chain is of one sort of Yarn or Worsted, the Woof or Shoot, of another. This is the very Case of several Manufactures at *Exeter* ¹, and elsewhere. The *French* also, and the ¹ Ch. 140. *English* likewise, mix Wool upon the Cards, for spinning: §. 4. this appears to be the Work of what are called *Scriblers*, for mixed or medley Cloths; but that, I conceive, is a Mixture of different Colours of dyed Wool, of the same, rather than of divers Qualities.

13. For as it is allowed on all hands, that the separating and sorting of Wool, is one, and not the least Part of the Skill and Dexterity that is employed in the Woolen Manufacture ^a; requiring to be performed with much ^a See Care and Exactness: So common Sense will tell us, that Ch. 140. such Separation of Wool cannot be, for the sake of §. 17. confounding it again upon the Cards, or in the Comb; Ch. 151. since, at the best, that would be only so much *lost Labour*. §. 1. 2. *hour*.

14. This is to be understood of that Separation or Sorting, which is ordinarily made, of Wools so totally different from, and contrary to each other, as that it would be highly unprofitable to have them combed or carded together; and which is the Case of some Wool in every individual Fleece¹. But after this first Separation or Sorting, (which the *French* and *Spaniards* call *Triage*, because the Wool of every Fleece is usually divided by them into three Sorts^m) I find, by Discourse with a working Wool-comber, that there is practised, in *England*, a Mixture of Wool for the Comb, (and not im- probably for the Cards too in like manner) which is thus: As in every Flock of Sheep, or Pile of Wool, which is called the *same*, there are some Fleeces of a finer Hair than others; so, in every Parcel or Mass of Wool which is called the *same*, and intended for the same Purposes, that is, after it is reduced by the aforesaid primary Separation, to be in a good measure of one Sort, will there necessarily be some Parts finer than others. And these, I understand, the Combers particularly are careful to intermix as closely as they can, in order to bring the whole Mass, as near as may be, to a *Level*, (as the Comber termed it) to the end (as he again expressed himself) it might produce one sortable Quantity of *Tear*, i. e. even Yarn or Worsted, viz. in the same Degree of Strength and Fineness.

15. But this is far from proving the Point asserted, viz. that any extraordinary Price can *therefore* be afforded for finer Wools, in order to mix with coarser; since so far as such Mixture is any Way proper, it must needs be that the coarse will take from the fine, as much as the latter can add to the former; and it appears that the whole Benefit, 1st, Of separating or throwing out the coarse and improper. 2dly, Of mixing the Remainder, is, making the whole Mass intended to be combed or carded for one Use, equal to itself throughout, be it coarser or finer.

16. And should it be so (which is hardly probable) that finer Wool is really more worth, for mixing with coarser, than for using alone; yet, is it not worth more, in that respect, to the *French*, than it is to the *English*; because the *English* use it in like Manner, and with equal Advantage, whatever it be. But,

17. Lastly,

¹ Ch. 89.

§. 17.

^m Ch. 151.

§. 1, 2.

17. Lastly, if, against all Probability, so it is, that the *French* can afford to give such extravagant Prices for *English* or *Irish* Wool, for the Sake of mixing it with theirs; beyond what the *English* Manufacturer can any Way afford to give, nay, beyond what all the Labour and Expence bestowed in manufacturing it at home, can make it worth at a foreign Market (as according to Mr. Gee, who says they can afford to pay 78 l. a Pack for it) how, according to what Sir *Josiah Child*ⁿ, longⁿ Ch. 48. since, most judiciously and truly observed, can it be §. 3. proposed to prevent their purchasing it?

18. Why, Mr. Gee says, ‘*By a Registry conducted in the strictest Method, that of the Excise;*’ and so far, he is consistent. Nevertheless, according to his Account of Things, it is justly questionable, whether even such a Registry as he prescribes, would do the Business wanted.

19. But against Mr. Gee’s Account, I urge, 1st, The common Practice and known Utility, of *sorting Wool*, is a strong Argument against any such Usage as that of mingling Wools of such different Qualities, as the *French* and *English* Wools are represented to be, in order to the spinning of them together. 2. As to that other Mixture (after spinning) in the Loom; by making the Warp or Chain of one Sort of Yarn or Worsted, the Wool or Shoot, of another; though confessedly it is practised in *France*; yet (besides that it is practised in like Manner in *England* also) will it not make for Mr. Gee’s Argument, viz. ‘*That the French can afford to pay extraordinarily for English and Irish Wools, for the Sake of such Mixture.*’

20. He indeed, and others, pretend to assure us, that, without such Mixture, the coarse *French* Wool (as they call it) would be *useless*. But I answer, 1. So far are the *French* from being able to afford any high Price for the fine *English* or *Irish* Wools, for the Sake of mixing with very coarse *French* Wool, that such a Mixture would, in the Nature of Things, be unprofitable, like *sewing a Piece of new Cloth into an old Garment*. 2. As in most Countries, there is comparatively, a greater Demand for coarse, i. e. low priced Goods, than for fine and dearer, and the greatest Demand of all, for those that are coarsest; because such come for the *least Money*: So the *coarsest* • See *Wool* of *France* is no more a Drug, or *useless* ° there, Ch. 160. than §. 4.

p See
Ch. 154.

than is the coarsest Wool of *Great Britain*, in this Kingdom. And this is evident from the single Circumstance, of the *French* importing Quantities of coarser Wool than the coarsest of their own^p; which they would not do, if there was danger of their own being *useless*.

21. Thus, as a Mixture of fine *English* or *Irish* with very coarse *French Wool* must be unprofitable; and as no *French Wool*, not even the coarsest, can be deemed *useless*, without a Mixture of *English* or *Irish Wool*: so neither can the latter be so advantageous to the *French*, for mixing with any of their better Sorts of Wool, as that, *therefore*, the *French* can afford to give any *considerable advanced Price* for it; which I prove thus.

22. Such of the *French Wool*, as is at any time used, mixed with *English* or *Irish*, is either superior, or equal, or inferior to such *English* or *Irish Wool*. As the latter is generally supposed to be the Case; let us say, *v. g.* that such *French Wool* is comparatively worse than the *English* or *Irish Wool*, with which it is mixed, by 30 *per Cent.*; and that $\frac{2}{3}$ of such *English* and *Irish* is mixed with $\frac{1}{3}$ of such *French Wool*; must not, in that Case, the whole Mass of Wool be 20 *per Cent.* less worth, than if it had been all of the better *English Wool*? and must it not be 10 *per Cent.* better, than if it had been all of the worse *French Wool*? And (supposing an equal Market for both Kinds of Wool) must not the Manufacture from Materials so mixed, as supposed, be at least 20 *per Cent.* cheaper, because so much worse than if made with equal Skill and Labour of all the better Sort of Wool? But work up this same mixed Wool into different Species of Goods, requiring a different Portion of Labour; and will they not consequently admit of being sold at different Prices? And if the Quantity of Materials is the same in each, or so far as they are the same, must not the whole Difference of Price between the one and the other, be placed to the Account of Labour altogether?

23. This is so true, that Mr. *Gee*, in attempting to explain his own Notions of the *high Temptation to the Runnage Wool*, has unwarily resolved it, in effect, into the different Price of Labour only, in *England*, and in *France*. And tho' he is far from being singular in his Notions in the general, as touching the great Advantages to be made by mixing *English* or *Irish*, with *French Wools*;

Ch. 148. *Memoirs of Wool, &c.* 395

Wools; yet, because he has not only carried that Notion higher by far than any other Person I have met with (one^y only excepted) and because *He alone* has un-^{Ch. 75.}dertook to demonstrate the Matter by Figures; *therefore*, §. 13. *Notes*, I here produce his Calculation, in order to examine the Contents of it.

24. ' A Piece of Cloth (says Mr. Gee) made of
' four Pounds of Wool in *England*, costs the Clothier,

	<i>l.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>
' Four Pounds of Wool, at 6 <i>d.</i> ———	0	02	0
' Manufacturing at 3 <i>s.</i> —————	0	12	0
	0	14	0

' To make a Piece of Cloth of *equal Value*,

' the *French* Clothier must mix one Pound

' of *English* Wool with three Pounds of

' *French* Wool; but deducting from the

' Wages of the Manufacturer one Third,

' can afford to pay for the one Pound of *l.* *s.* *d.*

' *English* Wool, ————— 0 04 6

' Three Pounds of *French* Wool, ——— 0 01 6

' Manufacturing ————— 0 08 0

0 14 0

25. Thus does Mr. Gee's Hypothesis, of the *French* being able to afford 4 *s.* 6 *d.* a Pound for *English* Wool, or *Irish*, suppose these four Things. 1st, That the *French* can manufacture full 50 *per Cent.* cheaper than the *English*. 2. That their own Wool is so bad, as to be *useless*, without a Mixture of $\frac{1}{4}$ *English* or *Irish* Wool. 3. That notwithstanding such intrinsic Difference between *French* and *British* Wools, or *Irish*; yet the former is of equal Price with the latter, *viz.* 6 *d.* a Pound. 4. That though *French* Wool *alone*, is *useless*, yet when compounded with $\frac{1}{4}$ of *British* or *Irish* Wool, it produces a Manufacture of *equal Value*, as if made with the same Skill and Labour, of all such *British* or *Irish* Wool. §. 24.

26. But in Contradiction to this Hypothesis, 1. The *French*, I think, can not manufacture 50 *per Cent.* nor any Thing like it, cheaper than the *English* do. For if they could, as they and the *English*, purchase the Wools, of

of which the Superfine Cloths are made, at one and the same Market, viz. in Spain; and therefore it is presumed, at the same Price (If not the *French* cheapest, as being nearest * and most favoured in that Country) it would be impossible for the *English* to sell a single Yard of such fine Cloth, where any *French* Cloth came to be sold, of the same Sort; the latter would be so very much cheaper.

27. Not only so, but the *French* would be as able, to run considerable Quantities of their Cloth into the *British* Dominions, as they are, to smuggle *Wool* out of them. But though we hear much of one, yet nothing of the other. Nor do we hear of any such Difference in the Price of the finest *French* and *English* Cloths, as 50 per Cent. Difference in Labour, would occasion. Of a Difference of 25 per Cent. indeed, the *British Merchant* * speaks †: Of from 13 to 15 or 16 s. the Yard, some others ‡. But as, on the one hand, most *English* Men agree, that the finest *French* Cloth is not equal to that of their own Country; And as I apprehend that the Difference of Price between one and the other (whatever it be) does not arise altogether from the Difference of Labour, but from an intrinsic Difference also: So, on the other Hand, I am persuaded that even the intrinsic Difference of these fine Cloths, in one Kingdom and the other, is not to be attributed so much to the superior Skill and Abilities of Workmen in *England*, beyond those of *France*, as to *French* Artifice, in making something worse, for the Sake of underselling so much more; and by which they find their Account in foreign Markets.

28. Herein they take Care to suit themselves to the Taste of those they have to deal with. And though *French* Cloth does not so well take the Fancy of the *English* in general; that, we may presume, is not, because they cannot work like the *English*; but because they know they may not import Cloth to *England*. If they

* But though he says that the then Difference, in Price, between *French* and *English* Cloths, was 25 per Cent. he does not say that they were of equal Goodness. He only says, that 'in general, they were, Goodness for Goodness, cheaper than ours,' not 25 per Cent. cheaper.

they might, as the *British Merchant* hath said ^{Ch. 99.}, *they* ^{§. 2. Note.} *would make our Hearts ake*; we should soon find them, either bringing over the *English* to be pleased with the Cloth they now make, or else making such Cloth as the *English* do at present, for the most Part, prefer, *viz.* thick, firm, heavy. But such Cloth requiring more Stuff, Time, Labour, must in course be dearer than the light thin Cloth they generally make for their own wear, and for the *Levant, Italian, Portugal, and Spanish* Trades. And hence we may perceive, that did the *French* bestow the same Labour, and an equal Quantity of Materials, to make their Cloth of equal Substance and Goodness with the *English* Cloth; in that Case, as it would be also more nearly at least of equal Price: So, the Premises considered, it is to be concluded, that they cannot manufacture so very much cheaper than the *English*, as *50 per Cent.* nor any Thing near it; as has been represented by Mr. *Gee*, and by others occasionally.

29. The second thing implied in Mr. *Gee's* Hypothesis, is, *That French Wool, without a Mixture of British or Irish, is useless*; i. e. as it is vulgarly expressed, *the French cannot do without our Wool*. This would be a fine Circumstance for *England*, was it true; but the Falshood of that Suggestion, and the Truth of what the *British Merchant* ^{Ch. 105.} hath affirmed to the contrary, is sufficiently evinced, from the ^{§. 12, 14.} *Dictionnaire Universel du Commerce*. ^{Ch. 151.}

30. Mr. *Gee*, in the third place, supposes this very ^{67.} bad (in itself *useless*) Wool of *France*, to be of equal Price with the *so much better English Wool*; rating the one and the other, alike, at 6 *d.* a Pound ^{Ch. 162.}. And is not this a kind ^{§. 24.} of Solecism? — Is it not saying at once, that *French Wool* both is, and is not so good as *English Wool*? But I go farther, and say, that the most Part of the *French Wool* in *France* ^{Ch. 162.} sells dearer than *English Wool*. ^{§. 7. Note.} in *England*: So that, either *French Wool* is proportion- ^{Chap. 40.} ably better than the *English*; or else the *English Wool* is ^{§. 13. Note.} so much depressed below its natural Value, as the Difference amounts to; which latter is in a great measure the Case.

31. Fourthly, (which is most extraordinary) Mr. *Gee* supposes a Composition, of $\frac{1}{4}$ *English* or *Irish* Wool, very good, and $\frac{3}{4}$ of *French*, nothing near so good, to produce

24. produce Cloth or Stuff of equal Price^t, consequently of equal Goodness, as if it was made entirely of such good *English* or *Irish* Wool. And is not this a Miracle, like that of *Transubstantiation*? Can a Person, not seeing a Work of this Composition, credit such a Report of it, without renouncing his *Reason*? Or could a Person, think we, after seeing, believe it, without giving up the Evidence of his *Senses*?

32. It is therefore to be concluded, that the *Temptation* to the Runnage of Wool is not, *cannot* be any thing near so great, as Mr. Gee particularly has represented. And this being a Point, which, above all others, in order to put an end to that inveterate evil Practice, wants to be adjusted more exactly, and, if possible, very precisely, I shall, for that reason, take occasion, hereafter, to discourse more fully thereof, in order to shew how great it really is, and whence it arises; and this, if I am not very much mistaken, will appear to be, not from the Benefits of mixing, nor so much from the high Duties in *England*, or the lower Labour of the *French*, as from the *Wool of ENGLAND and IRELAND being depressed, AT HOME, below its natural Value, in consequence of a MONOPOLY, occasioned by prohibiting absolutely the Exportation of Wool.*

C H A P. CXLIX.

Abstract of the Scheme for registering Wool, prepared by the Lords Commissioners for Trade, &c. and laid before the Parliament Febr. 12. 1741-2.

1. **I**T is proposed, that a certain Number of Gentlemen, Merchants, Traders, Manufacturers, and Exporters of Woollen Manufactures, be appointed with full Powers to prevent the clandestine Exportation of Wool, by establishing a Register of such Wool, as now remains, or shall hereafter annually be shorn in *Great Britain*.

2. First

2. First Meeting to be at _____ on the
Day of _____

3. The said Commissioners shall then by Ballot chuse eight Persons out of their Number to be acting Commissioners, for the ensuing Year, to sit daily; of which, five to be a *Quorum*.

4. Four of them to go out at the Year's End, and four new Commissioners to be chosen by Ballot.

5. And so for the second Year.

6. And every succeeding Year. No one Commissioner to be chose a second time, 'till all have served once.

7. The like Rotation for the future; those first chosen, to be first in Succession.

8. Each acting Commissioner to receive an annual salary.

9. Upon the Death, &c. of any acting Commissioner, another shall be chosen by the whole Body of Commissioners.

10. And so for any Commissioner at large.

11. The acting Commissioners, or five of them, shall have full Powers for carrying this Scheme into Execution.

12. Shall have a Secretary, Deputy Secretaries, an Accountant General, Deputy Accountant, ten Clerks, one Door-keeper, two Messengers, sixteen Supervisors, with two Affittants for each Supervisor, one hundred and fifty-seven Riding-Officers, and one hundred other Officers, to be constantly stationed in the principal Ports, and manufacturing Towns of the Kingdom, with reasonable Salaries; who shall all be chosen by Ballot, by the whole Body of Commissioners then present.

13. But upon Death or Removal, to be replaced by the acting Commissioners.

14. These Officers shall be posted, as the Commissioners shall judge most convenient.

15. There being about 786 Market Towns in *England and Wales*, one Riding-Officer will be sufficient for five of them; and may attend each, one Day or more, in every Fortnight, to make Entries of Wool in each Person's Possession, grant Permits, &c.

16. One Supervisor, with his two Assistants, may inspect ten Riding-Officers.

17. Notice to be given in every Parish Church, of the respective Days, in every Fortnight throughout the Year, when

when the Riding-Officer will attend at the Market Towns within his District, which, as near as may be, shall be the usual Market Days.

18. Every Person, under the Penalty of shall attend at some Market Town on the Day appointed, and make an Entry with the said Officer, of the Wool in his Possession, who shall give him a Certificate thereof in the following Terms, viz. *‘These are to certify, that A. B. dwelling at came this Day and made Oath before me, That all the Wool now in his Custody, is kept in, or laid up in such a Room or Loft, and doth amount to Weight, and no more.’*

19. And the said Officer shall within Days return a Duplicate of such Certificate to the Commissioners.

20. No Person to remove Wool without a Permit from the Officer of the District.

21. Every Grower of Wool within Days after he shall have shorn his Sheep, under Penalty aforesaid, to make an Entry, upon Oath, with the Wool Officer, of the Number of Sheep and Lambs by him depastured, Fleeces shorn, and Weight of the Wool, distinguishing the Kinds; and not to remove any Part without a Permit.

22. All Felmongers, or others, who sever Wool from slaughtered Sheep or Lamb Skins, shall likewise give an Account upon Oath, every six Weeks, to the Wool Officers, of all Skins they receive in, and the Weight of Wool severed from them, distinguishing Shortlings from others; and that they do not remove any Part without a Permit.

23. No Person to purchase Wool, exceeding the Weight of Pounds without a License from the said Commissioners, and giving Security that he will not transport any Wool, nor remove any without a Permit.

24. Licenses may be granted, and Security taken by any of the Officers on paying the Sum of

25. Such Licenses and Securities to be returned to the general Office in *London*.

26. Provides for charging and discharging every Buyer and Seller of Wool by Permits for Removal, till it comes to the Manufacturer.

27. Who

27. Who shall be discharged thereof by the Weight of his Manufactures, with a reasonable Deduction for Loss in working up the same.

28. All Wool exceeding Pounds, removed without a Permit, shall be forfeited, and treble the Value, with the Horses and Carriage; one half thereof to his Majesty, and the other half, to the Officer who shall seize the same.

29. All Dealers in Wool shall account annually with the Wool Officers, for the Quantities of Wool by him grown; bought or disposed of; whereof they are to be discharged by Permits, and Receipts on the Back thereof, or by Manufactures made out of the same; and whatever Quantity shall be deficient, shall be looked upon as so much Wool clandestinely exported, and they shall forfeit treble the Value.

30. Reasonable Allowances shall be made for Diminution in working, Loss by Fire, &c. of which the Commissioners shall be the sole Judges.

31. Proceeding according to the best and most authentic Accounts of what generally hath been the usual Loss of Waste in the said Operations.

32. All Wool removed out of the Place entered for its keeping, exceeding Pounds shall be accounted Wool removed without a Permit, and be liable to the Penalties; except small Quantities sold to poor Housekeepers, to be by them wrought up into Hose, &c. or delivered to Combers, Spinners, &c.

33. A daily Account of such small Quantities to be kept in Books, provided the Dealers signify the Quantity, and to whom delivered; which Books shall lie open in their Warehouses, to be perused by the Officers, and shall be returned at the Year's End, to the Wool Officers, upon Oath.

34. Dealers failing in the above Article, shall for every Offence forfeit the Sum of

35. Any Wool Officer in the Day-time, to enter into the Room or Warehouse for keeping of Wool, for Examination; and if the Wool shall be deficient, the Owner shall forfeit treble the Value.

36. The like Penalty, where the Quantity of Wool shall exceed the Entry made thereof.

37. Dealers to have Weights and Scales, and to assist in weighing Wool, or forfeit the Sum of

38. Wool Officers shall have Power, taking to their Assistance a Peace Officer, in the Day-time; upon Information given upon Oath before any Justice, to enter Rooms to search for concealed Wool; if such be found, to be forfeited, and treble the Value, paid by the Person in whose House or Custody found.

39. Persons obstructing Officers, to forfeit

40. No Wool shall be carried Coastwise, but by Vessels registered and licensed, and Security given not to export it to foreign Parts.

41. Such Vessels to be *English* built, and navigated by the King's natural Subjects only.

42. And shall not receive any Wool on Board, without a Permit, specifying the Quantity and Quality of Wool; to what licensed Purchaser, and where, consigned.

43. The Captain of the Vessel not to deliver the Wool, but in the Presence of a Wool Officer; nor to any, but to whom the same is consigned; who shall deliver to the Captain a Permit for purchasing the same, together with a Receipt on the Back, which shall be a Discharge to the Captain.

44. Allowances shall be made for Losses by Shipwreck, or Captures by the Enemy, upon sufficient Proof.

45. All Vessels not licensed, taking Wool, shall be forfeited, one Half to the Informer; the other, to his Majesty.

46. Any Wool Officer, or Officer of the Revenue, or any Captain of his Majesty's Ships, are hereby empowered to make Seizure of such Vessel.

47. If any Wool, or any Horse, Carriage, or Vessel, shall be seized for want of a legal Permit, &c. the Proof shall lye on the Owner of such Wool, &c. and not on the Officer who shall stop the same.

48. All Forfeitures and Penalties to be determined in a summary Way; if within the Bills of Mortality, before the acting Commissioners; or if in any other Place, before two neighbouring Justices, whose Determination shall be final, except in the Case of Vessels seized,

Ch. 149. *Memoirs of Wool, &c.* 403

seized, where the Owner may appeal to the Court of *Exchequer*.

49. The Act of the 12thth of his present Majesty, re-² Ch. 142; relating to the registering of Ships, &c. to continue in P. S. Force.

50. Persons taking out Permits for removing Wool, who neither in the Time limited remove it, nor return the Permits to the Wool Officer, shall forfeit

51. The Commissioners annually to lay an Account of their Proceedings before his Majesty in Council, and both Houses of Parliament.

*This Scheme * may be extended to North Britain and Ireland.*

All which is most humbly submitted.

Whiteball,
Feb. 18,
1741-2.

Monsen,
R. Plumer,
T. Pelham,
M. Bladen,

J. a. Brudenal,
B. Keene,
R. Herbert.

C H A P.

* Besides some others, the following Observations were modestly made on this Scheme. 1. 'That the Regulations therein proposed, are borrowed from the Methods practised in the *Excise Office*. 2. That all of it that is valuable or rational, is taken from Mr. *Webber's Plan*.'

*The Word Excise having a little before this, upon a particular Occasion, become very unpopular, it was a short, and the most effectual Way of disparaging any Measure, to shew, or even but pretend, that such Measure was any way analogous to the Excise. I shall not, because it is besides my present Purpose, enter into the particular Merits of that Affair; but considering what is here understood by that Word; that it was not a Tax, but barely a Method of taking, and keeping Accounts; of charging, and discharging the Parties concerned, (the only Things wanted in this Case) I am bold to say, that whatever Scheme came nearest to the Methods practised in the Excise, in that respect, was nearest to Perfection, for the very Reason given, above twenty Years before, by Mr. *Barry*, viz. 'That it was both better and easier to pre-² Ch. 114; vent than punish Offences in this kind.' §. 4.*

If some Accounts were to be credited, this Scheme might possibly have failed of effecting what was intended by it; which yet, in that Case, is not a Defect occasioned by any
C c 2 Over-

Overfight, or want of Forethought in the Contrivance of; but arising out of the very Nature of the Thing.

This Scheme pursues regularly enough the Wool, Grover and Felmonger, to the Manufacturer; who be discharged thereof by the Weight of his Mass with a reasonable Deduction for Loss in working up. But, supposing the Manufacturer to be also an Es Wool, (which some say is not uncommon) and sup

• See

Ch. 146.

Nº 2.

Note.

• Ch. 148.

§. 1, 2.

Temptation to that illicit Trade to be any thing new as has been represented, what should hinder such facturers from offering the same, or at least Part of Parcel of Goods, over and over again, in Discharge actually exported? I can conceive but two Checks; fons so disposed; the one, their own Conscience, by an Oath to be imposed; the other, some indelible Mark fixed upon every Piece, or Parcel of Woolen Goods, ferred, and accepted, in Discharge of so much re How far this latter is practicable, I know not; but known that the former, an Oath, has not been found able in the Case of an high Inland Duty upon Tea there was any Truth in what Mr. Gee particularly touching the very high Price which the French often afford to give for English or Irish Wool, rather than it, the Temptation would go near to operate after manner, in the case of Wool, as in that of Tea.

• Ch. 148.

§. 2.

I, who give no Credit to Mr. Gee's Calculations, that this Scheme of Registry, if carried into throughout Great Britain and Ireland, would have availed, as to have prevented the Exportation. Nor do I object to this Scheme, as many have done would require Trust, create Trouble and Expence; these are Inconveniences inseparable from the Work to be done. This Honourable Board of Trade has reported to Parliament their own Sentiments concerning of Wool, to that very Effect, viz. That it is avoidably be attended with a Multiplicity of Accounts other Difficulties and great Expence.

• Ch. 127.

§. 11.

less, the Lords Commissioners, at this Time, had whether to prepare a Scheme of Registry, or not; in pursuance of Directions not to be controuled. And as before observed, there are no considerable Objections Scheme, more than what arises from the Nature Thing; yet is it justly questionable, whether the Thing i. e. the End proposed by it, be really Tanti; and Nation would find its expected Account from it, after Difficulties, i. e. Trouble and Expence, which multiply have attended it. But more of this, when I I through all my Evidence upon the Subject.

P. S. Before I quit the Article of *Schemes, &c.* 'tis but Justice to mention Mr. *Laybourne*, who with a truly honest Of Mr. Zeal, and most laudable Intention, bestowed much Pains, Lay- and shewed no small Ingenuity, in contriving a Scheme of bourne's Registry, in a Way peculiarly cheap and easy to the Sub-Scheme. ject, i. e. the Parties concerned, for preventing the Exportation of Wool unmanufactured; which Scheme he published Ann. 1742; and which, if not practicable to sufficient Purpose, it is for the Reasons just mentioned above, as heretofore assigned by the *Lords Commissioners of Trade*: It is, § Ch. 127. in short, owing to the Immensity of the Business, which is §. 11. such (as the present Lord High Chancellor, when Attorney §. See General, observed in the Case of Mr. *Webber, &c.*) 'that Ch. 145. ' it is scarce possible to be reduced under one general Manage- §. 10. Note. ment.

To which I take the Liberty of adding, that the very Thoughts of so great an Incumbrance, as a Registry for Wool must necessarily be, imply a fundamental Mistake in the People at large on this Subject; i. e. Ideas in regard to English and Irish Wool, which are in no wise conformable to the real Truth of Things. This, I think, has appeared sufficiently already, in the Course of these Memoirs; but will be still further evinced from the *Dictionnaire Universel du Commerce*. (See Chap. 151—67.)

C H A P. CL.

Chambers's * Dictionary.

1. **T**HE Wools most esteemed, are ; the *Engliſh*, thoſe about *Leominſter*, *Coteſwold* †, and the *Iſle of Wight*.
2. The Wools of *England* have always been in the higheſt

* I do not here produce Mr. *Chambers*, as an Authority, (for upon this Subject he happens to be a very bad one) ; but, becauſe he is conſulted upon almoſt every Subject, and, on ſeveral, is undoubtedly very inſtructive ; THEREFORE I introduce him, to point out certain of his Errors on this : Intending thereby to ſhew the great Neceſſity there was for ſome diſtinct hiſtorical Performance, (concerning ſo weighty a Matter as is the Buſineſs of Wool, and the Woolen Manufacture of *Great Britain*) that might convey more juſt Ideas, and more authentic Intelligence thereof, than are to be had from this *Dictionary* particularly, and from *The Arlas Maritimus Commercialis*. To ſay thus much, is, I conceive, but Juſtice to the Public.—Becaufe, theſe being the Books commonly recurred to, in all general Inquiries of this kind, they are inſtrumental in deceiving many, in regard to the Affair of *Wool* in particular : And ſhould they continue to be credited, as Oracles on that Head, they would be eternal Bars to the Knowledge and Belief of what is true concerning the ſame.

*Camden
Britan.
p. 238.*

† ‘ *Coteſwold*, which takes its Name from the Hills and
‘ Sheepcotes ; (for Mountains and Hills without Woods,
‘ the *Engliſh* Men in old Times termed *Woulds*.) Upon
‘ theſe Hills are fed large Flocks of Sheep, with the whi-
‘ teſt Wool, by reaſon, as is ſuppoſed, of their hilly and
‘ ſhort Paſture, whoſe Wool is much valued in foreign Na-
‘ tions.’

N. B. *Theſe Wools*, particularly thoſe of *Coteſwold*, are
^h Ch. 171. much celebrated by ſeveral Writers. But ſee ^a the Price of
^N 6, 7. *Coteſwold Wools*, and of the *Iſle of Wight*, compared with
ⁱ Ch. 172. the Price of the middle, and even loweſt *Spaniſh Wools* ;
 and thence judge, if the *two former* are not either over-praiſed
 by *Engliſh* Writers and ſome others, or elſe underſold in
 the *Engliſh* Markets ; both which I think to be the Caſe,

highest Repute, and that more abroad † than at home. Some we have, which, manufactured by our own Clothiers, *Chamberlayne* observes, does both for Softness and Fineness, vie with the choicest Silks *.

3. *Spanish Wool*, we know, bears a great Price amongst us; but it is certain, much the greatest Part of that which is called *Spanish Cloth*, is from Wool that grows in *England* †. — Add, that the *French* can make no good Cloth of their own Wool, without, at the least, one Third of *English Wool* ‖ mixed with it.

4. It is allowed, the Goodness of the *Spanish Wool* is owing to a few *English Sheep* sent over into *Spain*, as a Present, by *Henry II. of England*, or by *Edward IV* **.

5. The excessive Custom, on the Export of unmanufactured Wool, set the People upon making it into

C c 4

Cloth

† They have constantly been sold at higher Prices, abroad, than at home; and well they might, for these plain Reasons: 1st, Anciently, Wool was not only subjected to a considerable Duty on Exportation, (which was so much taken off from the Price * of the Wool to the Grower) but * See was greatly monopolized by the Merchants of the Staple †. Chap. 5. Both which Circumstances together, made, no doubt, a §. 9. mighty Difference between the Price of *English Wool*, in Chap. 7. *England*, and of the same, in foreign Markets. 2dly, Our §. 1. later Statutes, which prohibit absolutely the Exportation of † See Wool, being also in the Nature of a Monopoly, have depressed Chap. 15. the Price of *English Wool* in *England*, far below its natural §. 33. Value: So that 'tis no wonder, if what does escape abroad, is commonly sold at a different, i. e. at a Market Price, according as all other Wool is sold; in which Sense, by how much the Wools of *England* are more reputed abroad than at home, by so much is the Injury greater, that is thus done to the *English Wool-Grower* and his Dependants.

* A silly Hyperbole, of some ancient Panegyrist, but unworthy of a serious Pen, in this more enlightened Age.

† It is certain that the best *Spanish Cloths*, called *Superfine*, have no *English* † Wool at all in them.

* Ch. 87.

‖ And it is equally certain, that the *French* not only §. 5. make their best Cloths (as the *English* do) of all the best *Spanish Wool*, but that they make besides, many Sorts of good Cloth, with *French* † Wool alone.

† Ch. 151
—168.

** See Chap. 3. §. 18. Chap. 12. §. 15.

Cloth † themselves. In which they succeeded so well, that towards the Close of the sixteenth Century, the Exportation of any Wool at all was absolutely prohibited; and this upon Pain of having the right Hand struck off †.

6. From that Time, *England* has been exceeding jealous * of its Wool. To prompt their Vigilance, the Judges, &c. are seated on Wool Packs ††.

7. The Woolen Manufactory of [*England*] may be said to have had its Rise in the fifteenth Century ‖. Till that Time, our Wool was all sold in the Fleece to such of our Neighbours as came to fetch it: But certain Manufacturers from *Louvain* flying into *England*, on Account of a Sedition and Murder, they instructed our People how to work their own Wools.—This Establishment is referred to the Year 1420 . .; from which Time, no Endeavours have been spared to keep our Wool to ourselves **. 8. So

† The high Custom on Wool exported, was perhaps of some Advantage to the *English* Manufacturer, especially for *home Consumption*; and might have been of more, for the *Exportation Trade*, had not a mistaken Policy, for a long time, prevailed, of subjecting Cloth as well as Wool, to a Custom on Exportation; rating the Cloth as the Sack, viz. (21 *Edward III.* °) 14 *d.* for every *English* Cloth carried forth by *English* Merchants; by Strangers, 21 *d.* Which Custom, in Queen *Mary's* Days, after her Marriage with King *Philip*, was raised to 6 *s.* 8 *d.* and 13 *s.* 4 *d.* †; and was not discharged † till towards the latter End of King *William's* Reign.

• See Chap. 5. §. 23. Vol. 1. p. 120. Note.

† Ch. 87. §. 16. 11, 12 W. III. c. 12.

‡ It is true, that the *English* had so well succeeded, as, long before the Close of the sixteenth Century, to have been great Makers, and Exporters likewise, of Woolens. But to say that there was, in the whole Reign of Queen *Elizabeth*, any Prohibition like what is here mentioned, is an absolute Falshood; witness the Statute Book.

* The Merchants of the Staple, anciently; and, latterly, the Merchants, and the Manufacturers, have been constantly aiming at, and frequently compassing, in some Shape or another, a *Monopoly* against the *English Wool-Grower*.

†† See Chap. 175. N° 1. §. 7. B. Chap. 28. §. 1.

‖ See Chap. 175. N° 1. §. 6. B.

. . This Sedition, and its Consequences, was in the Beginning of the fourteenth Century.

** So then, we should suppose, from Mr. *Chambers*, that the Exportation of Wool had been so long prohibited, as from

8. So jealous are we now become of our Woolens, that besides the Precautions taken to use all our own Wool ourselves, we have added that of selling them ourselves, and of carrying them to the Places where they are required; not admitting Strangers to come and buy any in *England* †.

C H A P.

from the Year 1420. Which is 202 Years sooner than any Act of State did issue for that Purpose: A Proclamation of King *James* (1622^r) being the very first which so much as looked that way. What had passed of this nature in *Edward* III. was expressly intended for very different Purposes than that of keeping our Wool to ourselves; and so, in all probability, were the Proclamations severally both of *James* and *Charles* I. Nor was the Ordinance of Parliament (1647ⁿ) adhered to, even by the Executive Power. And therefore, the first Prohibition, in this Case, strictly speaking, can be dated no higher than the 12 *Car.* II. viz. 1660^w, the Year of the Restoration.

† With all our Jealousy, in regard to Wool, we are not now, neither have we, lately, been so foolish in respect to the Exportation of Woolens, as Mr. *Chambers* represents us. In the Beginning of Queen *Elizabeth*’s, when a kind of Navigation Act did pass, there was a saving Clause to the Merchant Adventurers, in behalf of Wool and Cloth. And the Navigation Act of 12 *Car.* II. was corrected in the 25th of the same Reign, with regard to Aliens, excepting Coals and Manufactures. — But by the 1st of *Will.* and *Mary*, c. 32. for the better Encouragement of the Woollen Manufacture, and the Growth of Wool, *Any Person or Persons may buy and export the Woollen Manufactures into any foreign Parts whatsoever*; saving to the *Turky* Company, and some others, their Charters and Grants, which nevertheless, as so many *Monopolish Inclosures*, do, in the Opinion of several, want to be further laid open. By the 6th of *Anne*, c. 9. all white Woollen Cloths may be exported by *any Person or Persons*.

N. B. These which have been noted in Mr. *Chambers* (and this last, more particularly) are not Mistakes of an indifferent Nature; but have an evil Tendency to mislead the People, already too far misled in their Notions of *English Wool, &c.* and to rivet them in Errors to which they have been long inured by other Writers, and whom Mr. *Chambers* himself, as a great Collector, may be supposed only to have followed too implicitly, and not to have employed his industrious Pen with any deliberate Intention of imposing upon his Readers.

C H A P. CLI.

Diétionaire Universel du Commerce : By Mr.
Savary. Geneva, 1742.

Tome 2.
p. 941.

O F W O O L, &c

Wool.

1. **T**HOSE who trade in *Wool*, in *France*, divide every Fleece into three Sorts. The first is called *Mother Wool*.

2. The *Spaniards* make very near the same *Triage* of *Wools*, as the *French*, and they call their several Sorts of *Wool*, *Prime*, *Second*, and *Tierce*; with this Difference, that the *Spaniards* sell all the three Sorts together, without any Refuse; and the *French* sell and buy them separately, according to the Use they intend them for. The *Prime*, of *Segovia*, is, indisputably the best of that Kind. The mere *Laine*, or *Mother Wool*, is yet of two Sorts; distinguished into fine and middle; according as the Staple is short and fine, or long and coarse.

3. The *Wool*, before it is fit for Work, goes through many Hands; after it is shorn, it is washed, then dried, then beat, then oiled, carded and spun; then it is put into the Loom, or used with the Needle.

4. The Commerce of *Wool* is very considerable in *Europe*; and the Consumption of it so great in *France*, since the last Wars, that notwithstanding the Abundance thereof in most of the Provinces of the Kingdom, they import large Quantities from foreign Countries.

5. The *French Wools* are chiefly from *Languedoc*, *Berry*, *Normandy* and *Burgundy*, *Picardy*, *Champagne*; and other Provinces also produce it, but not so good in Quality, nor in so great a Quantity.

6. The foreign *Wools* are from *Spain*, *Portugal*, *England*, *Scotland*, *Ireland*, *Holland*. From the *Levant*; by the Way of *Marseilles*; from *Constantinople*, *Smyrna*, *Alexandria*, *Aleppo*, *Cyprus*, the *Morca*, *Barbary*; these last are least esteemed; *Smyrna* and *Constantinople* furnish the best that come from the *Levant*.

Page 942. The *French*, especially in *Provence*, import considerably from

from the Isle of *Candia*. Those, with the rest that come from *Greece* and the Isles of the *Acrchipelago*, are of a mean Sort, fit only for coarse Stuffs, or to make the List of finer; they make some Quilts of them.

7. *Wools of France* are commonly sold by the Farmers and Labourers, *en suif*, i. e. unwashed. Those that buy them at the first Hand, either wash and triage them, or else sell them in the Fleece, washed only. When the Wool has been triaged, then it is sold only by Weight. The best Wool of *France* is that of low *Normandy*, and principally that of *Valogne*; those of *Constantin* are almost as much esteemed. They make Cloth of *Valogne*, *Cheburgh*, *Vire*, and *Serges finettes*, *Razes*, of *St. Lo* and *Caen*; and these are made very fine. The Wool of *Berry* is also used in Cloths of *Valogne* and *Vire*, and in what they call *Drops de Berry*; also in *Druggets of Amboise*, with a Mixture of *Spanish Wool*. Ch. 164. §. 10.

8. We must confess that the foreign Wools are far superior to *French Wool*; at least, those of *Spain*, *Portugal*, and *Great Britain* *. But the Dexterity of the Manufacturers, in mixing their own Wool with their Neighbours, set them upon an equal Foot with, or perhaps above the most expert of their Neighbours †. p. 943.

9. The

* Here we find the Wools of *Great Britain* mentioned in the third place, viz. after those of *Spain* and *Portugal*; and in that Rank of intrinsic Goodness I take them to be among the Wools of *Europe*; consequently it might be expected, that they should be also the next to these in Price; and tho' it is otherwise in the *English* Markets, yet that, no doubt, would be the Case, were they not under the Pressure of a Monopoly.

† How is this to be understood? That the *French*, by mixing *British Wool* with their own, have the Dexterity to make better Goods than their most dextrous Neighbours in Woolen Manufacture, the *English*? That methinks is impossible. This would be making not only their own Wool better than *English*, but their own Workmen superior to the most dextrous. And therefore I imagine, what the Author meant, is, that the *French*, by the Help of their Neighbours, the *Spanish* and *Portuguese* Wools, (which are better than the *English*) tho' mixed with their own not quite so good, were capable of making as good Draperies, of the middle Sort, as their most expert Neighbours, the *English*, do, of the like sort, with their own Wool only.

9. The Wool that comes from Spain, is principally from *Castile*, *Arragon*, and *Navarre*. They give them Names, according to their Quality, or the Places from whence they come. Those from *Castile* and *Arragon*, come commonly by *Bilboa*. The Places about *Saragosse* in *Arragon*, and the Neighbourhood of *Segovie* in *Castile*, furnish the best. Amongst the finest of these two, they distinguish again the *Pile of the Carthusians*, and the *Pile of the Jesuits*, those that are called *la Grille*, *Refin Segovie*, *Refin Ville Castin*.

10. In general, they give to the most fine Wools the Name of *Prime*; adding to it the Name of the Place, from whence they come. So they say, *Prime Segovie*, to express the finest Wool of that City: The next to it in Fineness, is called *Seconde*, or *Refleuret*, to which they join the Denomination of some Place in Spain, as *Refleuret Segovie*, *Refleuret Ville Castin*, &c. This *Second*, of Wool, is sometimes called singly, *Segoviane*. The third Sort is called *Tierce*, which is also distinguished by a second Denomination, as *Tierce Segovie*, &c.

11. The *Prime*, especially those of *Segovie*, and *Ville Castin*, are commonly used for making the finest Cloths, Ratines, and other very fine Stuffs after the Fashion * of *England* and *Holland*. The *Segoviane* or *Refleuret* is used to make Cloth of *Elbauf*, or others of like Quality. The third is only used for common Cloths, as those of *Rouen* and *Arrêtal*. The Refuse of these three Spanish Wools is called in some Parts of *France*, *Migot*, i. e. bad.

12. The Wools of *Meliennes* come from *Barcelona*; and though *Roussillon* has been long since detached from the Crown of Spain, and yielded to *France*; yet the Wools of that Province keep always the Name of Spanish Wools. They are of three Sorts. *Refleuret*, which is the *Prime*, or most fine of that Province; the *Second*, which is the next, and the *Migeau*, which is the less. The other Names of Spanish Wool, or Wool esteemed as Spanish, are *Albarazin*, *Sorie Segoviane*, or *de les Rios*, the *Sorie* common, *Caseres* or *small Segovie*, *Segewense Segoviane*, *Segewense de Melime*, *Florettonnes de Segovie*, and *Flors-*

* See Ch. 125. See here, *façon d'Angleterre*, or *English-like*, is a mere technical Word, not implying necessarily the Use of §. 1. Note. *English Wool*; in that kind of Manufacture, which is so called.

Fleurettes common, of Navarre and Arragon, the Cabesas of Estramadoure, and the petits Camps of Seville and Mallagis.

13. Besides the several Cloths^d abovementioned, in a §. 11. the Fabric whereof *Spanish Wools* are employed, they are also used for making Cloth Stockins, Waistcoats, Socks, and other the most fine Works of *Bonneterie*.†.

C H A P. CLII.

Dictionnaire Universel du Commerce: *Me-* Page 945:
moirs concerning the Wools of Castile and Arragon (taken in the Year 1719) and of the Wools of Portugal.

1. **T**HE Wools of *Castile*, i. e. they that are comprehended under the Name of *Lanas Castillas*, are, *Segovianas Leonisas: Les Segovias: Les Sorias: Les Molinas.*

2. The Wools of *Arragon* are also of four Sorts, viz. *Albarazins fine, Albarazins middle, the Campos, and the black Wool of Saragossa.* They call the Wool that comes from *Navarre, Fleuretons.*

3. The Wools of *Castile*, and the *Albarazins*, are sent to *Rouen, Holland, and England.* The *Campos*, and *black Wools of Saragossa*, go to *Rochelle*, for the Manufactures of *Poitou.* The *Fleuretons* go to *Bretagne or Rochelle.* The *Agnelins* every where, especially to *Bretagne.*

4. There are five different Ways of buying Wool at *Madrid*, viz. 1. Upon the Sheeps Backs, to wash and triage, themselves. 2. All washed and triaged, by Weight, according to the Custom of *Bilboa*, and to be delivered at a Place certain. 3. In like Manner, washed and triaged, but in the Place where the washing and Triage was

† *Bonneterie*, i. e. Caps, Waistcoats, &c or whatever else is knit or wove, after the manner of Stockins.

* The *Agnelin's* are Wools shorn from Lambs, of which there are as many Sorts as the Wools mentioned above.

was performed, delivered upon the Spot, and sent by the Purchasers themselves to *Bilbao* or *Bayonne*. 4. At a certain fixed Price, as the Buyer and Seller shall agree. 5. At a Price uncertain, *i. e.* to pay for one Pile, what other Piles of the same Quality shall be sold for. This last is a precarious Method; and the Buyer † seldom finds his Account in it.

5. The Time of shearing the Sheep in *Castile*, is towards the Month of *May* and *June*. At the same Time that they shear their Sheep, they put their Wool into Piles: Then they wash them, to take out the Grease and Dirt. This Time of washing continues to the Month of *August*.

6. Tho' in this washing, something is done towards taking out the Grease from the Wool, in order to render it fit for Work, yet must it not be expected to be hereby entirely cleansed of its Grease, but of the Dirt and Ordure wherewith it was soiled.

7. The first Work, after this, is to card it; and in order to carding, it requires some Oil. That which is to be employed in Whites, or the natural Colour of the Wool, may remain in the Oil. But the Wools or Stuffs that are to be dyed, require to be clean scoured.

8. The Waste that there is of Wool, *en suin*, when it is well washed, is commonly 53 per Cent. *i. e.* 17 *Arbes** of Wool *en suin*, produces only 8 *Arbes* of washed Wool, which make commonly one Bale. The Waste in Wools is not always the same; Experience shews, that if there is no Rain in the Time of Shearing, then it is most; and on the contrary, if that Season is rainy, then it is less. The Reason is, because the Rain at such Time carries off a Part of the Grease and Soil, while the Wool is yet upon the Sheeps Backs, and also after Shearing, while it lies in the Piles, in order to washing.

9. Mr. *Mondoteguy*, Author of the *Traite de Arbitrages*, supposes 400 Pounds of Wool, *en surge*, as it is taken from the

† This is a Method sometimes used in *England*, but in which the *Sellers* (as has been observed) seldom find their Account. Thus, is the Difference, in that respect, between *Spain* and *England*, plainly the Difference, of a free, and of a monopolized Market.

Ch. 152. *Memoirs of Wool, &c.* 415

the Sheeps Back, to make one Bale, of 8 *Arbes*, or 200 Pounds of washed Wool, taking the *Arbe* upon the Foot of 25 Pounds. This Proportion, of half Waste, nevertheless is not entirely just, for all Sorts of Wool. For Example, 25 Pounds of Wool of *Segovia*, *et farge*, afford 12 Pounds and an half of washed Wool; 25 Pounds called *Seria*, 11 Pounds, and 25 called *d'Arregon*, from 9 and an half to 10 Pounds.

10. To wash these a second Time, as they ought to be, in order to make Cloth, they lose again 20 Pounds *per Cent*. So that upon that Foot, 25 Pounds of Wool of *Segovia*, when washed the second Time, as it must be, will be only 10 Pounds; and the rest, in Proportion.

11. They make commonly as many Piles as there are different Sorts of Wool. There are Piles of *Segovianas*, *Serias*, *Molinas*, *Albaraxins*. Nevertheless, among Piles of the same Sort, there are some better than others. For Example, the Piles of *Segovianas Lemifas*, those of the *Escorial*, the Piles of *Mondéjos*, and *Ortega*. The different Sorts have a different Price. The *Segovianas Lemifas* are more dear than the *Serias*. They are called *Lemifas*, to distinguish them from the *Segovianas*, singly, because the Sheep are fed upon the Mountains of *Leon*, which are excellent Pasturage.

12. The Price of Wool *per Pound* in *France*, bought Page 950. (1719 *) at *Bilboa*, viz. washed and triaged.

	<i>Livres.</i>	<i>Sols.</i>
The Bale, prime Cost	600	00
Freight, &c.	62	04
Total.	662	04

The neat Weight at *Rouen* is 164 lb.

So that dividing 662 lb. 4 *sols* by 164; each Pound comes to

<i>Livres.</i>	<i>Den.</i>
4	00 9

Of

* The Author gives it to be understood; that by reason of the War, about this Time, between *France* and *Spain*, Wool came dear to *France*, and that it has been much cheaper since.

Of another Sort,		Livres	Sols	Dern.
The Bale, prime Cost, — — —	574	06	0	
Freight, &c. — — —	62	04	0	
Which divided, as before, by 164, is				
per lib. — — —	3	17	7	

The Price of Wool per Pound bought
en Suin, i. e. unwashed.

The Bale in, — — —	526	00	0
Freight, &c. — — —	62	04	0
	588	04	0

Which divided as before, is — * 3 11 9

It is to be observed concerning Wool *en Suin*, that on Account of the two Bales, *Second*, and one, *Tierce*, which compose a Pile of fifteen Bales, the Prime of the Wool noted as above, 3 *Livres* 11 *Sols* 9 *Dern.* must be rated 2 *Sols* per lib. dearer. According to which Calculation, the twelve Bales de Prime, cost at Rouen, per lib.

	Livres	Sols	Dern.
The two Bales, <i>Second</i> — — —	3	13	9
One Bale, <i>Tierce</i> — — —	2	15	4
	1	17	0

Seguevi-

* I don't know how to reconcile this high Price of Wool, (*en suin*) as a Fact, with the two foregoing Examples, and what has been said concerning the Waste of such Wool, when it comes to be washed, (see §. 8, 9, 10.) unless it is hereby intended to give the Price of so much Wool bought *en suin*, as, when washed, amounted by Computation to a Bale; and in this View it is very intelligible, making the Difference, of about 9 at the most, or at the least, 5 *Sols*, per Pound, for the Labour of washing it: See (§. 4.) the five different Ways of purchasing Wool at Madrid, viz. upon the Sheeps Backs, the Purchasers themselves to wash and triage it; which I conceive is the same with what is here meant, by Wool bought *en suin, i. e. unwashed*, but to be paid for by Weight, when triaged and washed; or rather, I should imagine, bought with Allowance made in the Weight for the necessary Waste in washing; as for Instance (according to Mr. ^m *Mendoteguy's Traite de Arbitrages*.) to have two Pounds of the best Wool unwashed at the Price of one Pound, washed, and, of the middle and inferior Wools, yet more in proportion.

^m See §. 9.

Ch. 153. *Memoirs of Wool, &c.* 417

<i>Segovianas Leonisas, per libi at a Medium</i>	l.	s.	d.	Price of Spanish Wools 1719.
	3	15	0	Page 951
The others in Proportion, viz. <i>Segovias</i>	3	05	0	
<i>Sorias</i>	2	18	0	
<i>Molinas</i>	2	16	0	
<i>Albarazines fins</i>	2	18	0	
<i>De Moyens</i>	2	12	0	
<i>Campo fins</i>	2	10	0	
<i>De Moyens</i>	2	08	0	
<i>Laines Noires (black Wool) of Saragoffe</i>	2	12	0	
<i>Fleuretons de Navarre</i>	2	14	0	

13. The Pile of the *Escorial* is the best Wool of *Spain* that is bought up by Strangers. It belongs to the Religious there, and affords them a yearly Revenue, of 40,000 Piafters. The Piles which come nearest to the *Escorial*, are those of *Munos*, *Mondejos*, *Orlega*, *de Torre* and *Paular*; 1000 or 1200 Bales of this Wool are to be found at *Madrid*.

14. The Wools of *Portugal* do not differ much from Wools of those of *Spain*, and they pass commonly for those of *Portugal*, *Segovie*. The Cloths made of them, are very soft in the Hand. But the Makers don't chuse this Wool, because the Nature of it is such, that it fulls more in the Length than the Breadth; so that it comes short from the Fuller; which is a Loss to the Merchant.

C H A P. CLIII.

Dictionnaire Universel du Commerce.

Of the Wools of *Holland*, &c. of *England*, *Scotland*, and *Ireland*; of *Germany*, the *North*, and *Lorrain*, and of the *Levant*, &c.

1. THERE comes from *Holland* two Sorts of Wool. Page 951:
Those of the Growth of the Country; and Wools from
those that the *Dutch* have from *Germany*, *Pomerania*, *Holland*.
Vol. II. D d Dantzick,

Dantzick, Prussia, Brunswick, Paderborn, &c. These are commonly combed and spun in *Flanders*; of which they make very fine wove Stockins, and some fine Cloth.*

2. The Commerce of Wool is one of the most considerable Branches of Trade in *Amsterdam*; and the most distinct Account we have of it, is in the *Traite Le Negoce d'Amsterdam*, by *Sieur Jean Pierre Ricard**, published
 * See
 Ch. 172. 1722.

Page 954. 3. The *English* have been always jealous of their
Wools of Wools; but this Jealousy † has been increased since the
 England, Middle of the 17th Century: It is a capital Crime to
 Scotland, sell it abroad. Tho' the Wools of *Scotland* and *Ireland*
 and Ire- pass abroad for *English*; yet Foreigners skilled in those
 land. Matters, find they come far short of it in Fineness and
 Goodness. Nevertheless some esteem the *Irish* Wool to
 be finest. The Sheep that produce these precious †
 Fleeces

* Here observe, it is said, very fine wove Stockins, and some fine Cloth. And can we discredit this? Or can we believe it, and at the same time think of obtaining a Monopoly in foreign Markets, upon a Belief that Foreigners can't uphold their Manufacturies without *English* or *Irish* Wool? Or is it reasonable to create a Monopoly against the *English* Grower of the Material, when nothing like one can be acquired for the Manufacture?

† Jealousy, a proper Word enough, as it sometimes is used to denote Fondness, without Discretion; or Suspicion, without Cause. The Truth is, the *English Merchants of the Staple*, first, heretofore; since them, the *English* Staplers or Wool Jobbers, and the Manufacturers, have constantly thirsted after a Monopoly of the *English* Wools.

‡ Precious Fleeces. Mr. Savary had before applied this Epithet to the Wools of *Spain* and *Portugal*; and it is equally proper to some of the *English* Fleeces, which by their Weight or Quantity, are of great Value; although, Pound for Pound, the Wool is not of the greatest, especially in the *English* Markets. And as to the smaller Sheep of *England*, those of *Cotswold*, the *Ile of Wight*, &c. how does this Encomium (precious) agree with the Weight of their Fleeces, (which are but light, like the *Spanish*) and with the Price at which they are ordinarily sold in *England*; which is not only below the lowest Wools of *Spain*, at *Amsterdam*, but even below the coarse Wools of *Germany*, and the yet coarser of *Tours* in *France*. (See Chap. 162. §. 7. Chap. 171, 172.)

Fleeces are of two Kinds, the one, large, the other, small.

4. The excellent Pastures, and fine short Grass on which these Sheep feed, and which is plentiful in all Seasons, does not a little contribute to the Fineness of their Wool. But we believe it contributes much to their Goodness, that they have Convenience of feeding upon these Pastures, all the Year round, without being obliged to be shut up in Houses, except in very rigorous Seasons. Besides, there being no Wolves in *England*, they are secure at all times.

5. Mr. *Colbert*, whose Memory will ever be respected by all Lovers of their Country, had formed a Design of transporting *English* Sheep to *France*; hoping that by chusing for them, in the Provinces of *France*, Pasturage, and a Climate much like that of their Isle, they should be able to propagate and perpetuate the Kind. But the Count *de Cominges*, then Ambassador at *London*, shewed him the Impossibility of transporting them, and almost the equal Impossibility of preserving the Kind, when transported. So that this Minister was obliged to abandon a Project, which it was glorious for him to have entertained, altho' it could not be executed. *

6. The great Precautions of the *English* Government against exporting Wool, render it more scarce || among their

* This is a Story, at the best, spoiled in the telling. For Instance, it represents the Business, of transporting *English* Sheep, as the greatest Difficulty in this Case, whereas the Pasturage †, common Sense will teach us, was the main Point. Besides, was the celebrated Mr. *Colbert* such a Novice in these Matters, to want to be instructed by the Count *de Cominges*? And whatever it was that passed between these two great Persons, on this Subject, (as something probably did) must not that something have been worthy of the Characters of able Men, Ministers of *France*? (See §. 7. Note.)

† *Ovium summa genera duo sunt; Pinguis & campestris* Vol. 1.
Situs proceras Oves tolerat, &c.

P. 5. Note.

|| That is, (we should so understand it) more scarce, than if Wool, from *England*, was allowed to be freely exported. This is both intelligible, and certain. But as confessedly these Precautions don't entirely prevent it, so neither is it

their Neighbours; but they don't entirely prevent it. The *English* make use of long Winter Nights to convey them, and prefer a certain considerable Gain to the Dangers even of Death, which they have a Chance to escape. This intrepid Nation looks with Indifference upon that Danger, which is a Terror to most other People.

7. The finest *English* Wool comes from *Canterbury*, either uncombed, or combed, ready for spinning. It is that Wool, whereof they make in *England* the most fine * and serviceable Cloth that can be seen. They make use of it in *France* for their finest Cloths, and other their finest Woolen Stuffs. The Manufacturers have so well imitated the *English*, that the *English* themselves cannot distinguish the Difference. And it is only Prepossession of Opinion, and a natural Fondness for Things

certainly *more scarce*, in *France*, for Instance, than if these Precautions centered in a *Duty on Wool exported*, instead of an *absolute Prohibition*. For a Prohibition, we perceive, by long and abundant Experience, amounts but to a *limited Exportation of Wool*, and differs from a *Duty*, only in this, *viz.* that, under an *Exportation limited by a Duty*, *English* Wool in *England* will be dearer; which being rightly understood, would make it the Option of *Wool-Growers*. Under an *absolute Prohibition*, Wool is cheaper; and therefore the *Wool-Buyers* are in Love with a Prohibition; although they are sensible that comparative Cheapness of Wool is what will necessarily occasion the Exportation of it, clandestinely: And, no doubt, some of these, notwithstanding all Appearances and Professions to the contrary, do make their Advantage from clandestine Exportation accordingly. And such therefore, it may be expected, will be always loudest in their Exclamations against any Proposal for a Change of Measures in this Case.

* Mr. *Savary*, the Author of this Dictionary, tells his Readers, in his Preface, that he would not be answerable for all the several Memoirs, from which he had transcribed. And this, I think, is a Paragraph from one of those which are to be read with some Grains of Allowance, for being wrote in the hyperbolic Style, by an Author, probably *English*, and no Manufacturer; otherwise he would not have talked of making the *most fine* Cloth with *English* Wool.

^b See
§. 8.

Ch. 153. *Memoirs of Wool, &c.* 421

Things that come from abroad, that make the People prefer foreign Manufacture to that of the Kingdom.

8. The best *English Wool* is, that of *Leominster* in *Herefordshire*, of *Cotswold* in *Gloucestershire*, and of the *Isle of Wight* in *Hampshire*. It is so fine, that the Stuff, thereof made, comes near to Silk^d. And the Country produces such Quantities of it, that besides the Consumption of it made in the *British Isles*, an incredible Quantity of *English Cloth* is sent to foreign Parts. Ch. 150.
§. 1.
Ch. 150.
§. 2.
Chamber-layne, &c.

9. There is also a great deal of *English Wool* consumed in *France* for Tapestry, *Hautlisse* and *Bassisse*, or made with the Needle upon Canvas, especially for white and fire Colour; and those Wools are called *Laine de Gobelins*; because they are all dyed there by those able Dyers, who have been established there for above half a Century, and have render'd themselves so famous there, by their admirable dying, that they are not inferior to those of *Holland*.

10. One other considerable Consumption of *English Wool* in *France*, is in wove Stockins*, that are called Stockins de *Bouchon*, from the Manner in which the Wool is wrapped up hard, in order to its Conveyance to *France*. This Wool is very long and very fine, and comes ready combed from *England*.

11. For the Wools of *Scotland* and *Ireland*, they being nearly like to those of *England*, are put to pretty near the same Uses, except that being less fine, and more common, the Stuffs made of them, are not so much esteemed, nor so saleable. The most Part of these Wools come ready combed, and they are commonly spun in *Picardy*.

12. Besides all those Wools, of which we have just spoke, and which are the finest and best which Strangers furnish

D d 3

* Does not this prove, against the Bulk of *English Writers*, that the Advantage, of mixing *English* with *French Wool*, is not any thing like what has been represented at least? If it was, can it be imagined that the *French* would use any *English Wool alone*; and that only for wove Stockins, a Manufacture, wherein they are rivalled, not only by wove Stockins made of the Wools of *Holland* and *Germany*, &c. but by Stockins of Silk, of Cotton, of Thread; all which are commonly preferred to Worsted? §. 1.

Wools of Germany, from Germany and the North; which tho' of an inferior Quality, are employed in many Stuffs and other Works. They have commonly the Names of the Places whence they come, as Wools of *Rostock*, *Gripfwalde*, *Stralsund* & *Anclam*, *Stetin*, *Thoorn*, *Dantzick*, &c. They have nevertheless sometimes their proper Names; but they add always the Names of the Kingdoms, States or Cities, whence they are sent, as *Bluette du Rhin*, *Wool de Eté de Pologne*, *Wool Brunyere du Rhin*, *de Wismar*, *Plure de Mulbausen*, *de Wismar*, *du Rhin*; *Fine grise*, *Kiste*, &c. There is also a great Trade for Wool in *Lorraine*; of which there is an extraordinary Produce there, having many Sheep. The best Part of these Wools go to *Liege* and *Champagne*.

Page 956. 13. There are also Wools of the *Levant*, v. g. *Pe-lades*, fine and common; *Tresquilles* or *Surges*, *les Batardes*, *les Ipsola*, and *l'Etain* of *Constantinople*; Wools *Surges* of *Aleppo*, of *Alexandria*, of *Cyprus*, black *Batardes* of *Aleppo*; Wools de *Chevron*, black, of *Smyrna* and *Persia*, *Chevrons* redelish and white, fine and common, of *Smyrna*, of *Satalia*. Finally, *Mattelins* of the *Morea* and *Barbary*.

Page 957. 14. Wool *Auxy* is the finest spun Wool about *Abbeville*. Wool *Trice*, is Wool sorted. *Laine Basse*, or *Basse Laine*, is the shortest and finest Wool of the Fleece. Many give it the Name of *Fine*, on the Account of its great Fineness. That Sort of Wool, when spun, is commonly employed to make the Shoot or Woof of Tapestry, Cloths, *Ratines*, and other like fine Stuffs, for which Reason, the Manufacturers call it *Laine trame*. It is of that kind of Wool which the Stockin Weavers and Knitters use. The *Spaniards* and *Portuguese* give it the Name of *Prime*, or best. So they say, *Prime Segovie*. Wool *en suiff*, *en suin*, Wool *Surge*, are the same, i. e. Wool unwashed, in its Dirt and Grease. *Laine de Eté de Pologne* is one of the finest Wools of the North.

C H A P. CLIV.

Of the Commerce of *Marseilles*, in the Year Vol. 3.
1688. By *Sieur Gaspar Carfevil, Merchant* of *Marseilles*. A new Edition (*Appendix* to *Dictionnaire Universel du Commerce*) with Additions, distinguishing in Italics, the State of Trade, and the Price of Commodities there, in 1727, 1739, 1740. *Commerce of Marseilles.*

1. THERE come from *Smyrna* to *Marseilles*, from *Append.*
1800 to 2000 Quintals of Wool, of three Sorts, p. 19.
v. g. *fine Wool*, from 17 to 18 Livres the Quintal; *Bastard Wool*, from 13 to 14 Livres; *Metelin Surges*, from 11 to 12 Livres. From *Constantinople*, 2 or 3000 Quintals of the following Wools. *Laines Pelades*, or Skin Wool, fine, from 22 to 32 Livres; the coarse Skin Wool, from 14 to 15 Livres. Wool *Tresquilles*, Surges, 16—17 Livres; Wool *Tresquilles* coarse, Surges, 13—14 Livres; *Iffolat*, Surges, 15—26 Livres the Quintal *; *De Satalie Turquimani*, 350 or 400 Quintals, which are employed in making Quilts in *Provence*, *Languedoc*, and *Piedmont*. From *Tripoli*, of *Syria*, by *Seyde* and *Cyprus*, 5 or 600 Quintals, at 12 or 13 Livres. From *Alexandria*, from 800 to 1000 Quintals, at 14 or 15 Livres the Quintal. They serve to make
D d 4 Quilts,

* Though these are seemingly but low Prices for Wool, yet we can say the less about them, as they are not only Wools, the intrinsic Goodness whereof we are unacquainted with, but also Wools *en Surge*; wherein the Waste is considerable, before they are reduced to the Condition in which the *English* Wools are always sold. We have seen ^b Ch. 152. that the Waste of Wool, *en Surge*, the best of *Segovic*, in §. 9. the first washing, besides the Expence of Labour, is one Half; and that in inferior Sorts, the Waste by washing, and, it may be presumed, the Expence also, is still more. Moreover, the Quintal, or 100 lb. of *Marseilles*, is but 81 lb. of *Amsterdam*; which is not 80 lb. of *London*. (See *Traite le Negoce d'Amsterdam*.)

Quilts, and are used at *Lyons, Rouen*, and in other Parts of *France*. From *Alexandria in Egypt*, 80 or 90 Quintals, which serve for Drapery, at 14 or 15 Livres the Quintal; which are sold in *Provence* and *Languedoc*. From *Tripoli, Tunis, Algier*, and that Coast, 1500 or 2000 Quintals, employed to make coarse Cloths, Blankets and Quilts, at 14 or 15 Livres the Quintal; sold in *Provence, Languedoc*, and further in *France*. From the *Morea* 800 to 1000 Quintals, for Blankets and Quilts, at 9 or 10 Livres the Quintal; sold in *Provence, Languedoc*, and *Italy*. All these Wools come *Surge*, or in their Dirt.

1 A. D.
1688.

2. From *Spain* there come ordinarily 15 or 16000 Quintals of Wool, *Surge*; 4 or 5000 Quintals of Skin Wool from *Majorca, Catalonia, Alicants, Almerie, Valence, Carthagena*, and *Málaga*. But within a Year, there has not come the sixth Part; the Reason is, because they have been bought up in great Quantities, at an extraordinary Price, for *Holland*. Formerly, there came *Albarazins*, 1000 or 1500 Quintals, and Skin Wool 7 or 800 Quintals. These Wools were formerly at 20 and 22 livres the Quintal; now¹, are 28—30 Livres; the *Albarazins*, from 70* to 80 Livres; the *Skin Wool*, 5 or 6 Livres above the common *Spanish Surges*. The Consumption is made in *Provence, Languedoc, Dauphiny, Piedmont*.

In 1740†, the Wools of *Castile* and *Arragon* sold for 38 Livres the Quintal.

3. From *Sally* and *Tetouan* come ordinarily 3 or 4000 Quintals, the most Part, *Surges*, and the 20th Part, Skin Wool. There comes but little in Time of War. The *Surge* is sold from 14 to 15 Livres the Quintal. The Skin Wool, from 17 to 18 Livres.

4. In

* The *Albarazins* are among the better Wools of *Spain*; and therefore, by comparing this with Chap. 152. §. 12. we see the great Difference between the Price of the better *Spanish Wools en Surge*, and the same washed and triaged.

† The Wools of *Castile* and *Arragon* are also among the better Wools of *Spain*; consequently, by comparing this with the immediate foregoing Paragraph, we find that in 1740, the Wools of *Spain* were at about half the Price they sold for in 1688.

4. In 1739 there came from Constantinople, 1632 Bales of Skin Wool, 114 Bales of Wool from Panorme. From Smyrna, 50 Bales of Skin Wool, 50 Bales of Surge, 11 Bales of reddish Wool of Persia, 21 Bales of Bastard Wool, 310 Bales of Wool tresquille fine. From Alexandria, Cyprus, Tripoli, 204 Bales, and 228 Bales. From Cavallo, 247 Bales of Skin Wool, 31 Bales of Surge, 18 Bales of tresquille. From Salonica, 323 Bales of Wool Surge, 932 Bales of Wool. From Algier, 20 Bales of Wool Surge. From Barbary, 406 Bales. From Bonne, 420 Bales. From Spain, 2641 Bales. From Italy, Naples, Leghorn, and Genoa, 500 Bales of white Wool, &c.

C H A P. CLV.

Dictionnaire Universel du Commerce : *The Manufactures established in Paris and other Parts of France.*

1. **T**HE Woolen Manufactures of France are, *Cloth, Tome 2. Serges, Ratines, Baracans, Camblets, Calaman-p. 1186; cos, Tammies, Crapees, Bayes, Perpetuanas, Flannels, &c. Frizes, Anacostes, Druggets, &c.* all of Wool, or of Wool and Thread, mixt.

2. It is to *Monsieur Colbert*, Superintendant General of Arts and Manufactures, that this Kingdom is indebted for the first Establishment of those *Manufacturies* * which are now become the most flourishing in Europe.

3. There

* The Words Manufacture, and Manufactory or Manufactory, are by several Authors used a little too indiscriminately ; whereas, in Propriety of Speech, Manufacture, and Manufactory, have different Significations ; the one denoting the Art, or the Stuff itself, manufactured ; the other, in a larger Sense, the whole Design for setting on Foot and maintaining such a particular Work, in any particular Place or Part of a Country ; in which Sense, is here to be understood the word, *Manufacturies*, as said to be established by Mr. *Colbert*. (See §. 3.)

3. There have been a Number of good Regulations made concerning them, viz. in *August* 1669, *August* Pag. 1189. 1700; *March* and *May* 1701, &c. *A Royal Manufactory* is a Manufactory established by Letters Patents from the King.

Pag. 1192. 4. Several Persons have been famous for the setting up of Manufacturies in *France*, at several Times, and particularly, since *Hen. IV.* But two especially have distinguished themselves in this Way, 1. *Nicolas Cadeau*, who founded and brought to Perfection the Manufactory at *Sedan*. 2. *Joseph Vanrobais*, who established that of *Abbeville*, which long has been, and is yet, in high Reputation. The first was a Native of *France*, who in the Year 1646, joining himself with *John Binet* and *Yves of Marseilles*, two other rich Traders, obtained Letters Patents, given at *Fontainebleau* in the Month of *July* of the same Year, for his new Manufactory.

5. By these Letters Patents, the Company had the sole making (for twenty Years) of black and coloured Cloths, like those of *Holland*. These three *Patentees* and their Children, born, and to be born, were ennobled *, and honoured with all Titles, &c. of the Nobles of *France*. The King gave not only each of them a Pension of 500 Livres yearly, during their Lives, but also assisted them with a Stock of 8000 Livres a Year, during the Term of their Patent. The Success of this new Manufactory exceeded all Expectation. And the Cloths which we call *Draps de Sedan*, from the Name of the City where made, might be esteemed the finest of their kind, if those of *Abbeville* had not their *Partisans*, who contend for their being at least equal to them.

6. The Privilege exclusive of *Sieur Cadeau* †, was near

* *Ennobled*. But Query, if the Word, in this Place, signifies exactly what we understand by it in *Great Britain*? I apprehend not, but rather some other Privileges, of which, not knowing precisely the Constitutions of that Kingdom, we have not an exact Idea. But we are told that it is much the same Rank and Dignity with that, of an *English Esquire*.

† It is to be observed, that tho' the Original of the particular *Manufacturies* of the *Sieur Cadeau*, and of *Vanrobais*, are here mentioned, yet are we not to date from thence (as

Ch. 155. *Memoirs of Wool, &c.* 427

near expiring, when *Sieur Vanrobais*, a Dutch Merchant, desired to set up a new Manufactory of fine Cloths, after the Fashion of *Spain* and *Holland*, which he proposed to make at *Abbeville* in *Picardie*. His Letters Patents bore date, *October* 1669, of which the Principal Clauses were: For 30 Looms: For a requisite Number of fulling Mills, and 50 Workmen to be brought from *Holland*; with Passports for the same, Exemption from all Taxes, &c. for their Looms, Cloth, Wool, &c. In short, to facilitate the Establishment, the King gave him, as a free Gift, 12000 Livres, and lent him 2000 Livres for every Loom he should set up, during the three first Years, without Interest. Pag. 1193.

7. The

(as some Writers have done) the Beginning of Woollen Manufacture, or even of making Cloth in *France*; much less are we to suppose that these two particular Manufacturies received any Support from *English* and *Irish* Wool, (deducing thence the Owling Trade) for in these two particular Manufacturies was used only *Spanish Wool*. And whereas it is said, they made Cloth after the Fashion of *Holland*, *Spain*, and *England*, or *English-like*; these were but technical Names for certain fine Cloths; just as we say *Serge de Nismes*, *German Serge*, &c. tho' made in *England*, of *English Wool*. And the Reason why the Government in *France* was at such an Expence, to encourage these two particular Manufacturies, was plainly this: The making of fine broad Cloth is, in all Regards, the most difficult and the most beneficial Part of Woollen Manufacture; requiring the largest Stocks to carry it on to Advantage. In this, the *Dutch* and *English* being, at the Time when these Manufacturies were erected, superior to the *French*, they had the supplying, in a great measure, the Court and Kingdom of *France* with their finest Cloths; the Expence of which was so much, as to make a considerable Article against them, in the general Balance of their Trade. And therefore, the first View that Nation had, in erecting those Manufacturies, was, to supply their own Occasions, and thereby save a large Sum of Money within the Kingdom, which they had been used to pay to foreign Labour. To effectuate which, besides these positive Encouragements to Undertakers, and their Charters exclusive, (which, by the way, are, what would not have been endured in a free Country, as *England* is) they laid high Duties upon all foreign Woollen Manufactures, and particularly on the *English*, as their most formidable Rivals.

7. The said *Vanrobais*, having fulfilled his Engagement, had his Patent renewed to him and his eldest Son, in 1681, for 15 Years more; on Condition that he should set up 50 Looms instead of 30. In Consideration of which, the King remitted to him 20,000 Livres, of the 80,000 that had been lent to him, within the three first Years of his former Grant.

8. A third Patent, in the Year 1698, was granted to *Isaac* and *Jos. Vanrobais*, two Brothers, Sons of the first Undertaker, who had now set up 80 Looms. Which Number, in 1708, was increased to above 100; when the said *Jos. Vanrobais*, in Partnership with his Brother *Isaac's* Widow, being desirous to erect still more Building, in order to extend this flourishing Establishment, the like whereof perhaps was not to be met with, obtained, that same Year, a *fourth Grant*, with further Privileges, for fifteen Years to come. One of which Privileges was, a Permission to all Noblemen * to enter into the Partnership, without Derogation to their Titles and Honours.

C H A P. CLVI.

Dictionnaire Universel du Commerce.

OF French Cloths, and the other several Sorts of Woolen Manufacture practised in France; and of the Wools used therein.

Tom. 2.
Of Cloths,
p. 106.

1. **CLOTHS** are made of different Qualities, some fine, some middling, some coarse, or strong; some dyed in the Wool, of different Colours, *i. e.* the Wool whereof has been dyed and mixed, before it was spun and worked in the Loom. Others are made all white, to be dyed, scarlet, black, blue, &c. Their Breadths and Lengths are different, according to their Quality and the Places where made.

2. Almost

* See §. 5. *Note.*

Ch. 156. *Memoirs of Wool, &c.* 429

2. Almost all the Cloths that are seen in *France*, are Page 107.
the Manufacture of the Kingdom; nevertheless they have some from foreign Countries; especially, in Time of Peace, from *Spain*, *England*, and *Holland*.

3. The fine Cloths are of three Qualities; *the first* is made of the fine Wool of *Segovia*, without any Mixture; *the second*, of *Segovia* Wool, with that of *Albarazin*, second *Segovia* and Wool of *Soris*; *the third*, of other middle Sorts of *Spanish* Wool.

4. Many Manufacturies of this Kingdom, especially those of *Languedoc*, *Dauphine*, and *Provence*, afford Quantities for the *Levant*, from *Marseilles*. These Cloths, whose Names, Qualities, Lengths, Breadths, &c. are different from those worn in the Kingdom, have been the Subject of many Laws*.

5. The Cloths called *Londrins premieres*, are to be Page 113.
made of Wool, *prime Segovie*, both Warp and Woof: *Londrins seconds* must have for the Warp, Wool *Soria*, or Wool of equal Quality; for the Woof, *second Segovie*. *Londres larges* must be made of the best Wool of *Languedoc*. *Lower Dauphine*, *Gandie*, *Roussillon*, grand *Albarazin*, and others of like Quality. *Londres* must be made of *le fleuret de Laine de Languedoc*, *low Dauphiny*, *Gandie*, petit *Albarazin*, or others of like Quality. *Drap* *Seizans*, of Wool, of *Languedoc*, *low Dauphiny*, or *Spanish* Wool, of like Quality.

6. They shall not employ in the Manufacture of *Re-* Page 114.
morentin other than the Wools of *Berry*, *Sologne*, and *Rules*, Wools of *Spain*, *prime Segovie*, *prime Soria*, and *prime* Apr. 27.
Segoviane only; without employing other *Spanish* Wools, 1706.
of an inferior Quality, or the Wools of *Navarre*, or *Barbary*, or any other Wool.

7. Rules, August 21. 1718. for the making of Cloths Page 115.
in the Provinces of *Burgogne*, *Bresse*, *Bugey*, *Valromey* and *Gex*, viz. of whites and of different Colours at August
Dijon and *Selonges*, *Sommieres*, *Auxois*, *Auxer Montbard* 1718
Avalon, *Saulien*, *Chatillon* upon the *Seine*, *Montcenis*
Loüans, *La Charite de Macon*, *Cluny* and *Paray le Mon-*
ial. Common Cloths called *Sardis* that are made at
Bourge

* Les premiers Statuts du Corps de la Draperie sont de
' l'année 1188, sous le Regne de Philippe August.' Tom. 2.
p. 122.

Bourge en Bresse, Pondevaux, Montluel, and other Places.

Page 116. 8. Besides *Draps* (i. e. full Cloths) there is a Manufacture of *Petit Draps* (Stuffs of Wool) which are commonly used for Linings, viz. Serges of *Aumalle*, of *Beauvais*, and others, *Frizes*, *Frizons*, *Feltins*, &c.

Page 129. 9. *Druggets* are a Stuff of Wool, or of Wool and Thread, some broad, but most of them narrow. They are sometimes called *Pinchinas* *, tho' far from like

Page 130. what, of that Name, comes from *Toulon* and *Chalons*, in *Champagne*. The Places in *France*, where *Druggets* are chiefly made, are *le Lude*, *Amboise*, *Partenay*, *Niort*, *Reims*, *Reuen*, *Darnatal*, *Verneuil* in *Perche*, *Troyes*, *Gbaumont* in *Bassigny*, *Langres* and *Chalons* in *Champagne*. There are also very fine *Druggets* made, but of a particular Sort, at *Bedarieux* in *Languedoc*, and many adjacent Villages, which are sold in *Germany*.

9. The *Druggets* of *Lude* are of Wool entirely, both Warp and Woof. At *Amboise* are made of two Sorts, of Wool entirely, the one *Croisés* †, the others *not Croisés*. The *Druggets* of *Partenay* are made, some of Wool only; others, the Warp, of Thread, the Woof, of Wool. *Niort* affords *Druggets*, all of Wool; some *Croisés*, others not, half Ell-wide. The *Croisés* are the most esteemed, being for the most part close wrought, and very strong. The *Druggets* of *Rheims* are *not Croisés*, half Ell wide, commonly made of nothing but Wool *prime Segovie*, spun very fine, which gives them a Superiority to all the other || *Druggets* manufactured in *France*,

Tom. 3. * ' *Pinchina*, a kind of coarse and strong Cloth made at
p. 202: ' and about *Toulon*, Ell broad. There are that are made all
' of *Spanish* Wool only, others of Wool of the Country entirely; the first are chiefly sold in *France*; the rest, for
' the most part, in *Italy*, *Barbary*, and the *Archipelago*.
' *Chalons* furnishes a Stuff of Wool very strong, Ell wide,
' called *Pinchinas*, because its Quality comes pretty near to
' the true *Pinchinas* of *Toulon*.'

† *Croisés*, a technical Term.

|| These, I suppose to have been the *French Druggets*, which in the Time of King *Charles II.* were much worn in *England*. (See Chap. 51. §. 10. Chap. 55. §. 3. Note. Chap. 57. §. 6.)

Ch. 156. *Memoirs of Wool, &c.* 431

France, which are generally made of the Wool of the Country, coarse spun.

10. At *Roan* are made three Sorts of Druggets *not croises*. The one made of Wool only, half Ell wide, &c. Another called *Berluche*, or *Breluche*, the Woof, Wool, the Warp, Thread. This second Sort of Druggets comes very near in Goodness and Price to those of *Verneuil* in *Perche*. The last, commonly called *Espagnolettes*, are entirely of Wool, hairy on one Side, and sometimes on both, which makes them very warm. These Druggets *Espagnolettes* are made of different Qualities; one very fine, of *Spanish* Wool only; others less fine, of *Spanish* Wool mixed with the Wool of the Country; others of the Wool of the Country only, which are the coarser and of less Value. They are made white, and dyed, after that, of different Colours.

11. The Druggets of *Darnetal* are like to those of *Roan*, in Goodness, Length, and Breadth.

12. *Verneuil* in *Perche*, furnishes Druggets half Ell wide, from 42 to 65 Ells long, the Warp, Thread, the Woof, Wool of the Country, very coarse. They are of a low Price, viz. about 13 or 14 Sols the Ell. They are consumed commonly at *Beauvais*, the *Orleansois*, and Country adjacent to *Paris*, for clothing the Peasants. The Druggets of *Troyes* are *Croises*, on one Side, and not on the other. The Woof is of Wool, the Warp, of Thread. They are not much better than those of *Verneuil*. At *Chaumont* in *Bassigny*, and at *Langres*, are Druggets like those of *Troyes*.

13. At *Chalons* in *Champagne*, are made Druggets, all of Wool. They are called *Espagnolettes*, and their Quality is very good. There are few, except Druggets *Espagnolettes* of *Roan* and *Darnetal*, and some Druggets with Thread, that are dyed in the Piece; the others are dyed in the Wool, i. e. the Wool of which they are made, is dyed of several Colours, before it is carded, spun, and weaved.

14. *Serge* is a Stuff, of Wool, manufactured after a *Serges*. certain Manner. They have different Names given by *Tom. 3.* the Merchants and their Makers, to distinguish and render them more esteemed. Their Price is different, according to the different Sorts and Qualities and Places where made, viz. *Serge de Seigneur*, *Serge a la Reine*, *Serge* p. 756.

432 *Memoirs of Wool, &c. Ch. 156.*

Serge Imperial, &c. Serge raze, Serge a poil, Serge drapée, or Cloth Serge, Serge both Sides alike, and Serge de Berry, de Beauvais, de Mouy, de St. Lo, d'Aumale, de Crevecœur, de Blicour, de Chartres, &c. Façon de Londres, d'Arscot, de Rome, de Segovie. All of these which are made in *France*, are subject to certain Rules, by divers Arrets, according to the Places where they are made.

Serges fa- 15. *France* owes the Manufacture of Serge after the
çon de Lon- Fashion of *London* to *Lewis Bezuel* and *Nicolas de la Cou-*
dres. *dre*, Partners. These two able Manufacturers begun the Fabric, at *Aumale*, a little City in *Normandy*, in Consequence of a Patent exclusive, for 15 Years, of the 12th of September 1665, granted upon the Report of Mr. *Colbert*. It has since been transferred to *Seignelay, Gour- nay, Auxerre, Sedan, Abbeville, Beauvais, Boufflers, &c.* That of *Seignelay* has always preserved the Preference, either because they make use of better Wool, or are better Workmen, or because the Earth and Water are more proper.

16. As to the Manner of making the *Serges façon de Londres*. The best Wool for the Purpose, is that of *England*, viz. the longest, for the Warp, and the shortest, for the Woof. But as it is not easy to procure those Sorts of Wool, because they are prohibitedⁿ, they have recourse, for the Warp, to the longest and finest Wool of *Berry*; and for the Woof, to the *Prime* and *Second* of *Spain* and *Portugal* *.

ⁿ See
Ch. 153.
§. 6. Note.

17. *Perpetuanas*, a Stuff, like the *Serges of Sommiere*, are commonly made at *Colchester* and *Exeter*, and other Places thereabouts. These *Perpetuanas* are chiefly destined to *Spain* and *Italy*; but most to *Spain*, where there is a great Demand for them. Of late Years they make some in Imitation of the *English Perpetuanas*, at *Montpelier, Nismes, Castres*, and other Cities of *Low Languedoc*. Some are also made at *Beauvais*, which are much esteemed

Page 743.
Perpetua-
nas.

* However true it may be, that some long Wools of *England*, are better than those of the Province of *Berry*, in *France*: Certain it is, that the *English* short Wools are, either not so good as the *Prime* and *Second* of *Spain* and *Portugal*, or else they are very much undersold in the *English* Markets. (See Chap. 171. N° 6, Chap. 172.)

esteemed at *Cadiz*, where the *French* Merchants send them, dyed of different Colours. The Merchants of *Languedoc* send a Quantity of them into *Italy* under the Name of Imperial Serge, that are a little finer than those designed for *Spain*. Call them by what Name you will, they are but Serge, like to that of *Summiere*. The *Perpetuanas* designed for the *Spanish West Indies* are commonly sent in Assortments of forty Pieces, viz. fifteen, green Paroquet, fifteen Pieces, blue, five, musc Colour, five, black. There is one Species of *Perpetuanas*, less fine, which is mostly made in *England*; whence it is sent into *Spain*, chiefly for the *Indies*, commonly to the Value of 200,000 Livres a Year.

18. *Says* is a Kind of Serge, very light, all of Wool, 704 something like the Serge of *Caen*. Some of the *Religious* use them for Shirts; others, for Linings and Hangings in Furniture. They make Abundance of them at *Honfscotte*, *Ipres*, and *Turcoing* in *Flanders*. Those of *Honfscotte* and *Ipres* are about Ell wide. Those of *Turcoing*, which are very fine, and all of Wool only of *Segovic*, or *England*, are $\frac{7}{8}$ wide. There are also some made in *Artois* with the Wool of the Country.

19. *Bayes*, a Woolen Stuff, not *Croissée*, very loose *Tome 11* made, with the Hair on one Side, a Kind of Flannel, 368 very coarse. A Quantity of these are made at * *Glouc-Bayes* *Chester*. They make a considerable Number of them in *Flanders*, especially at *Tournay* and *Lisle*, and *Neuf Eglises*. Of late Years, the *French* have manufactured some with Success; especially at *Beauvais*, *de Castres*, *Montpelier*, and *Nijmes*. The Demand for them is very great in *Spain* and *Portugal* and *Italy*. The *French* begin to send many of them, white, black, and of all other Colours, as did the *English* and *Flemmings* heretofore. A Kind of Stuff of the same Name, but cheaper, is also made at *Alba*, and thereabouts. The *Bayes* of the Kingdom pay Duty, 3 Livres, the 100 Weight. Those of *England* pay 20 Livres for a Piece, of 25 Ells, and for *Doubles*, of 50 Ells, 60 Livres, by an Arret of 1687. Those of *Flanders* pay but 4 Livres for 20 Ells, by the Tariff of 1664.

20. *Reveches*,

* *Colchester*, I suppose, Mr. *Savary* meant.

Tom. 3.
p. 594.
Flannel.

20. *Reveches, Flannel.* Formerly, almost all these that were seen in *France*, did come from *England*. But since they have been imitated at *Beauvais* and *Amiens*, the *English* have sent few or none.

Tom. 1.
p. 1195.
Crape.

21. *Crape*, made only with two *Marches*, all of Wool. There are *Crapes* made in different Places, as well in *France* as elsewhere. Their Length and Breadth are different, according to the Places where they are made. Those of *Zurich* in *Switzerland* are the strongest of all; for which formerly there was a great Demand in *France*. They come mostly by *Lions* from *Zurich*. They were formerly made at *Paris*. But this Manufacture there, is lost. *Sieur Paignon*, a Merchant Draper of *Paris* first set up this Manufacture about the Year 1687. His Son *Nicolas Paignon* has since been more successful in his Undertakings; and to him we owe the fine black Cloths of *Sedan*, that are as much esteemed, if not more than those of *Leyden* in *Holland*. At *Amiens* are made white *Crapes*, with a Mixture of Thread. In *Languedoc*, particularly at *Castres*, certain slight *Crapes*. In *Flanders*, and above all at *Turcoing* and *Lisle*, a Quantity of light *Crapes* are made, and of different Colours, for the *Spanish* Trade. There are *Crapes* which they call *d'Angleterre*, made of Silk and Wool, chiefly at *Alencon*, *Angers*, and *Amiens*.

Tom. 2.
p. 319.
Stuffs
Woolen.

22. *Woolen Stuffs*, are so called, that are narrow, light, of small Price; such are the *Cadis* of *Sevennes* and of *Gevaudan*. The *Tammies* of *Auvergne*, the *Camletins* of *Flanders*, half Ell wide, *Paris* Measure.

C H A P. CLVII.

Tome 1.
Part 2.

Dictionnaire Universel du Commerce. Of the Commerce of France.

Commerce
of Paris,
p. 15, 19.

1. *Blankets*, of *Wool*, are made in the Suburbs of *St. Martin (Paris.)* There is at *Ferte Gaucher* a little Manufacture of *Serge*. There is a Tradition of an ancient Manufacture of *Cloth*, the Workmen where-
in

in first taught the *English* their Art. At present, there is no Manufactory in that District. At *Nangis* their Trade in *Wool, &c.* is considerable.

2. *Compiègne* furnishes a Quantity of *Stockins, &c.* The *Cloths, Camlets* and *Plusbes* that are made at *Margery*, a Village in that District, are esteemed. These Manufacturies are not very ancient, but are well conducted. The *Cloths* of *Sentis* formerly were in great Repute. But the Workmen having made them slighter, the Business is lost; and the Inhabitants are reduced to wash and prepare the Wool for the Workmen at *Beauvais*.

3. *Picardie* produces Wool. They have Manufactory *Picardie*, of Wool, &c. Besides five or six hundred *Milliers* p. 32. of Wool produced there, the Consumption there, is almost as great of other Wool, from *Germany, Holland, England, Spain*, and other Provinces of *France*. In the City of *Amiens* only, are made 129800 Pieces of Woolen Stuff. The Camlet-makers use about 80 *Milliers*, half thereof Wool of the Country *, half foreign Wool. Besides these, there are sealed there 50,000 Pieces, brought from neighbouring Parts, which for that reason are called *Etoffes foreines*. The Cities of *Picardie*, which have the greatest Trade for Woolen Manufacture, next to *Amiens*, are *Beauvais* and *Abbeville*.

4. In the Serge Manufactures at *Amiens*, they make Page 331 Serges after the Fashion of *Arcot, Crevecœur, Serge Cordelieres*, of many Sorts. Serges after the Fashion of *Chalons*, white, and mixt; Serges de *Seigneur*, *Quinquettes* or slight Camlets; Camlets after the Fashion of *Lisle* and *Arras*; Baracans and Tammies, of Wool only, others of Wool and Silk, &c.

5. The Woolen Stuffs made at *Beauvais*, are Ratines of different Sorts, as wide, strong, fine, and common: Tammies; Serge both Sides alike, or after the Fashion of *England*, or *Arcot*; or those that go under the Name of common Serge; Bayes, others after the Fashion of *England*; in a word, Flannels.

E e 2

6. The

* By Wool of the *Country*, here, and in most Places hereafter, (in the *Dictionnaire Universel*) is to be understood the Wool of the particular Province under Consideration, as distinguished from the Wool of other Provinces in *France*, as well as from Wools entirely foreign.

6. The Manufactures of *Abbeville*, not to mention the fine Cloths made after the Fashion of *Spain*, *England* and *Holland*, whereof mention has been made elsewhere, are *Serge de Londres*, *Razes de St. Lo*, *Ratines of Holland*, *Serge de Mouy*, *Bouracans* after the Fashion of *Valenciennes*; *Druggets*, *Thread and Wool*, *Tiretaines*, *Belingues*, *Pinchinas*, &c.

7. The other Places in *Picardie*, where *Woolen Stuffs* are made, are *Tilloy*, *Fienville*, *Naours*, *Beauchamps*, *Gravilliers*, *Feuquiers*, *Aumale*, *Anvoille*, *Glatigny*, and *Seules*. In all these Places are made only *Serges* and *Tiretaines*. *Mouy* gives its Name to a *Serge* that is well esteemed; and *Crevecœur*, to others that are not less esteemed. *Tricot*, and eleven Villages dependant upon it, give also its Name to a very strong *Serge*.

8. The best spun *Wool* of *Picardie* is at *Abbeville*, where vast Numbers are employed in spinning, and a great Quantity of the finest *Wool* is consumed, as well of the Growth of the Country, as *Spanish Wool*. These last are chiefly used for making the finest *Caps*, the other, in the Manufacture of *Cloth* and other Goods, of the Make of *Paris*, *Elbeuf*, and *Rouen*. The *Dutch*, in the Time of Peace, take off a great Quantity of it*.

Page 35. 9. We must remark, that at *Amiens* they employ only *Wool* of their Country, *England*, *Holland*, and *Germany*; but especially that of the Country and *England*.

36. It is computed that the *Woolen Manufacture* of *Amiens* amounts to near 1600,000 *Livres* yearly. The principal Manufactury of *Abbeville* is that of *Monsieur Vanrebais*.

40. 10. In general, the *Stuffs* made at *Beauvais* are wide *Ratines* of five Quarters, fine Ditto Ell wide, strong *Ratines* also Ell wide; the *Warp*, *Wool* of *France*, the *Woof*, of the middle Sort of *Spanish Wool*. Common *Ratines*, *Estamet de bures*, *Serge* both Sides alike, of *Wool*

* *Viz.* *Yarn* or *Worsted*, to the Value of 1500,000 *Flo-*
rins yearly, as we are informed by very good Authors:
Hence therefore judge, how far it is good Policy for *Great*
Britain to prohibit absolutely (as it does, and for many
Generations has done) the Exportation of *Woolen Yarn*;
whether it has not more in it of the *Monopolist*, than of the
truly wise or publick spirited Legislator.

Ch. 157. *Memoirs of Wool, &c.* 437

Wool of *France*; *Serge a Poil*, Ell wide, the Warp, *French*, the Woof, *Spanish Wool*. Fine *Serge*, of * *English Wool*, $\frac{1}{2}$ wide; after the Fashion of *Tricot*, of the best Wool of *France*, $\frac{2}{3}$ wide; *Espagnolets* $\frac{1}{2}$ wide, the Warp, fine *French*, the Woof, *Spanish Wool*; *Sommieres*, half Ell, and half Ell half quarter, of fine *French Wool*; *Reveches*, after the Fashion of *England*, $\frac{3}{4}$ wide, of *French Wool*; *Flannels*, after the Fashion of *England*, Ell $\frac{1}{4}$ wide; others, half the Breadth, all of *French Wool*; common *Serge*, half Ell half quarter, of Wool of the Country. In fine, common *Reveches*, of different Breadths, of the same Wool as before. The Masters that make the finest Stuffs, and are therefore stiled the *Great Company*, are about seventy. Those of the *lesser Company*, i. e. who work but common Stuffs, are above a hundred. About 500 Looms are employed in both together. It is computed that the great Company employs in their Fabric 115,000 Pounds of *Spanish Wool*, 2000 Pounds of *English Wool*, 160,000 Pounds of *French Wool*; the lesser Company consumes 185,000 Pounds of the common Wool of *France*; the Product of which is a third Part less than of the others. In the whole Department of *Beauvais*, are employed to the A- Page 42.
 mount of 745,000 Pounds of *French Wool*, and 115,000 Pounds of *Spanish Wool*; of which they make 68,000 Pieces of Stuff. They have about 40 Fulling-Mills.

11. Wool grown in the Province of *Picardie*, viz. at *Amiens* and thereabouts, 80 Milliers; at *Abbeville* 2, *St. Quentin* 100, *Péronne* 40, *Nesle* 40, neighbouring Villages 2, *Ham* 40, *la Ferte* 20, *Guise* 30, *Vervine* 60, *Laon* 30, *Vely pres de Laon* 40, *Chauny* 20, *Noyon* 20. Total 524 Milliers.

E c 3

C H A P.

* Here is another Testimony against that vulgar Opinion, of the *French* making vast Advantages of *English Wool*, by mixing it with their own; for was that Opinion in any Degree true, we should not find them converting any *English Wool* into *Serge* without a Mixture of other Wools; by doing which, they could have only the single Benefit of their own Labour.

C H A P. CLVIII.

Dictionnaire Universel du Commerce.

Of the Commerce of the Generality of Champagne and Soissons.

Champagne and Soissons.
Page 46.
Page 48.
Rheims.
Page 49.

1. **T**HE Pasturage is admirable, maintaining 16 or 17,000 Sheep, which afford three or four Millions of Pounds of Wool.

2. It is almost incredible how much of Woolen Manufacture there is in these two Provinces. At *Rheims*, they make Cloth after the Fashion of *Berry*, *Etamines*, *Razes*, *Cordelieres*, *Serges*, &c. At *Rhetel*, the same as at *Rhemes*, besides *Estamets* and *Crapes*.

3. At *Chateau-Portien*, at *Mezieres*, *Donchery*, *Mouzon*, *Fismes*, *Sainte Manebould*, *Sommepey*, *Ville en Tartanois*, *Soissons*, *Chateau-Thierry*, *Charly*, *Orbays*, *S. Martin Dublois*, *Bar-Sur-Aube*, *Ferre en Tartanois*, *Neuilly*, and *S. Fond*, they make only *Serges* and *Etamines* and *Deseverfins*. At *Sedan*, they make a Quantity of Cloth, very fine and very good, also a great Number of Cloth *Serges*, and *Serges* after the Fashion of *London*. At *Bouts*, *Pertes*, and *Joinville*, Villages near *Rheims*, they make only white *Etamines*, which they sell to *Rheims*. At *Montcornet*, *Ratines*, *Reveches*, Cloth *Serges* and *Estamets*. At *Vervins*, *Fontaine*, *Plumiere*, the like; also some common Cloths. At *Montmirel*, *Langres*, *S. Just*, *Anglure*, *Sezanne*, *la Ferte Gouchier*, and *la Ferte Sous-Jouars*, Cloth Ell wide, and above, to five Quarters, all of *Spanish Wool* only. In short at *Brienne*, *Chalons*, *Vitry*, *Joinville*, *Chaumont*, *Dionville*, they make *Serge Razes*, *Serge* after the Fashion of *London*, Cloth *Serge*, *Estamets*, *Everfins*, *Etamines* after the Fashion of *Rheims*, and *Druggets*; besides, they make Cloth at *Chaumont*. The Wool employed in these several Manufacturies is partly foreign, partly *French*. The foreign is common *Spanish Wool*, as *de Castille*, and *les Segovianes*, and the like. The *French Wool* is *de l'Auxois*, *de Berry*, *de Champagne*,
du

Ch. 158. *Memoirs of Wool, &c.* 439

du Soiffonnois, and de Picardie. They reckon 1400 Looms.

4. At *Rethel*, they use the Wool of *Champagne*, Page 52. *Picardie* and *Soiffonnois*. The * Mixture which the Workmen make of common Wool with fine, LOWERS considerably the PRICE and QUALITY of them. 

5. The Cloths made at *Sedan*, are some, after the Fashion of *Holland*, some, after the Fashion of *England*, Page 54. and others, after the Fashion of *Spain*. The Wool they make use of in the one and the other, are Wool *de Segovie, Segovianes, Albarazins, des Soris*, and other of the better Sorts.

6. The Fabrick of Serges is also very considerable at *Sedan*. The Wool they use, is that of *Berry, Ardenes, Champagnes, Brie*, and common *Spanish Wool*. They are sold in *Holland, Poland, Germany*, and within the Kingdom.

7. At *Donchery* is made wide Serge, Cloth Serge, Serge *de Londres*; the Wool is that of *Berry, Champagne, and Brie*. At *Mousson* and *Autrecott*, Cloth Serges, Serge *de Londres, &c.*; they are all made of Wool of the Country. In the Manufactory of *St. Manebould* they use only Wool of the Country, with which they make Serge after the Fashion of *Chalons*, Cloth Serges, Estamets and Frizes. At *Siuppe*, or *Suippe*, the Manu- Page 56. factory is considerable. All the Stuffs are made of Wool of the Country, *i. e.* Everfins, Cloth Serge, Serge Razes and Frizes. At *Ville en Tartanois*, wide Serges, Cloth Serges, all of Wool of the Country. *Routz, Perthes, and Sunville*, are three Villages near *Rheims*, where they make only white Etamines, of the Wool of the Country. At *Montcomet*, are made Serges, Ratines, Page 57. Estamets, Reveches, Cloth Serges, on which they employ only the Wool of the Country. *Vervins, Fontaine, and Plumieres* afford common Cloths and Serges, of the Wool of the Country. At *Neville S. Front*, are employed the Wool of *Brie, Champagne, and Soiffons*, in making Serges *de Berry*, and Cloth Serge $\frac{2}{3}$ wide. At *Ferre en Tartanois*, the Manufactory is wide Serge, Cloth Serge,

E c 4

* Is not this a decisive Testimony against that Nonsense, which has been so often and confidently repeated, of the great Advantages to be made, by mixing finer *English* and *Irish*, with very much-coarser *French Wools*?

Serge, and Serge after the Fashion of *Mouy*, the Wool, of the Country only. At *Charly*, they make wide Serges, Cloth Serges, &c. all of Wool of the Country.

8. These above, are in the Department of *Rhemes* (those that follow, are in the Department of *Troyes* and *Chalons*) where they make near 84,000 Pieces of Stuff, employing for that Purpose 740,000 lb. Weight of Wool of *Champagne*, *Brie*, *Soissonnois* and *Bourgogne*, besides above 530,000 Pounds of *Spanish* Wool, and above 50,000 Pounds of that of *Berry*. They keep there 14 or 1500,000 Sheep, which produce 3 Millions 7 or 800,000 Pounds of Wool.

9. At *Chalons*, they make a Quantity of Serge Razes, Serge after the Fashion of *London*, Estamets, Everlines, Cloth Serges, after the Fashion of *Rhemes*. Of these last, they make about 2500 Pieces a Year; of all the others, about 2000. The Wools they make use of, for the one and the other, are some, of *Champagne*, *Brie*, *Soissonnois*, and *Bourgogne*, and some *Spanish* Wool. There are 325 Master Clothiers. Besides, there are 30 or 35 other Looms for a Manufactory, that some Cloth Merchants of *Paris* have got established by Letters Patents. They make also in that Manufactory, Serge after the Fashion of *London*, Ratines, Pinchinas; and employ in the one and the other, according to their Quality, Wool, prime *Segovie*, fine *Albarasin*, and other *Spanish* Wool, with that of *Berry*, *P'auxois*, *Champagne*, and *Brie*. The Product of this Manufactory is in Proportion as great as the others. They sell them throughout the Kingdom, at *Liege*, and in *Italy*. *Liege* takes off a great Number, they being well liked there. At *Vitry*, are made Serge Razes, Serge after the Fashion of *London*, Cloth Serges, Druggets, and Estamets. The Wool they employ, are those of *Champagne*, *Brie*, and *P'auxois*. At *CHAUMONT*, are made a Quantity of Cloths, Serge *Craissée*, Druggets; of the last, one, is of Wool only, the other, of Wool and Thread. They use only the Wool of the Country.

C H A P. CLIX.

Dictionnaire Universel du Commerce.

*Of the Trade for Spanish Wool, at Bayone.*1. **I**T is to be observed, that the Wools which the Page 100.

Merchants of *Bayone* have from *Spain*, have some of them different Names from those given in the Dictionary, under the Article of Wools; but in Truth they are the same, under different Appellations.

2. It is computed, that the Import of Wool at *Bayonne* amounts to 15,000 Bales, of all Qualities, viz. *Segovies*, *Leoneses* Superfines, common *Segovies*, *Sories*, *Segoviennes*, *Burguletes*, *Sories de Caballeros*, *Sories Molines*, grand *Albarazines*, des *Cuencas*, des *Etrementas*, *Belchittes*, *Campos d'Arragon*, *Fleuretons de Navarre*, and all Sorts of Lambs Wool, fine and common, *surge*, and washed.

3. Many of the Merchants of *Bayone* give Orders to have part of the Wools bought *en surge*, and to have them washed upon the Spot, on their own Account. Others have them from the *Spaniards* who are Flock Masters, or from the Merchants of that Nation who trade in it, and every Year send or carry them to *Bayone*, all washed, and sell them there themselves. So that the People of *Bayone* have always their Wools at the first Hand, and can afford them cheaper than others. Besides, the best Conveniencies for washing are nearer that City than any other, even nearer than to *Bilboa*. The Wool that comes from *Bayonne* is most profitable and best *triaged* of all that come from *Spain*. The Weight they make use of at *Bayonne*, is sixteen Ounces to the Pound.

4. The Price of Wool is different, according to the Difference of Exchange. We shall set it here upon the Foot of the Price they sold at in *November 1724*; when the Pistole was at 16 Livres. Upon that Foot, the *Segovies*

442 *Memoirs of Wool, &c.* Ch. 160.

Page 102. *govies Leonefes* (R.) * were worth 52 Sols the Pound ; (F.) 6 Sols less ; the common *Segovies*, 48 Sols ; the *Segoviennes*, 46 Sols, *Sories Segoviennes*, *les Burgales*, *les Cavalleros*, 44—45 ; *les Sories*, 41—42, with the same Diminution of six and 12 Sols ; for the (F.) and (S.) other Wools, in Proportion to their Quality.

5. They load commonly at *Bayonne*, every Year, 30 or 40 Vessels, which carry 200 or 350 Bales of fine Wool to *Roan* and *Nantz*, and 8 or 10 Vessels to *Holland* : *Languedoc* also takes off much Wool of *Sories Segoviennes*, and common *Sories*, that are the most proper for *Londrins Seconds* ; which are the best for the *Levant Trade*.

C H A P. CLX.

Page 108. *Dictionnaire Universel du Commerce.*
Of the Commerce of Limosin, Poitou, &c.

*Commerce
of Limosin.*

1. **A**T St. *Jean de Angelis*, they make Cloths Ell wide, and Etamines : At *Nerac*, commonly 1900 Pieces of Cloth, and 1250 Serges : At *Angouleme*, Serges and Etamines : *La Rousse Foucault*, only Serge : *Limoge*, Reveches : *Tulle*, Reveches or petits Raz : *Brieve*, Reveches : St. *Leonard*, strong and coarse Cloths, for Soldiers and Peasants.

*Of Poi-
tou.*

Page 112.

2. The Stuffs made at *Poitiers* are Camlets, Etamines, Serges and Crape. At *Chastelleraud*, they make Serges and Etamines, in which they employ but Wool of the Country. At *Lusignan*, they make two Sorts of Serges, Razes and Cloth Serge, both of Wool of the Country. At St. *Maixant*, they make Serge Razes, which are esteemed for their Fineness, although they use but the Wool of the Country ; for which they chuse the finest ; and of the rest make Reveches, and other coarse Goods.

They

* These three Letters of the Alphabet, R, F, S, are
° Ch. 151. used to distinguish the three Sorts ° into which every Parcel
§. 1, 2. of *Spanish Wool* is divided by sorting, and therefore called
Triage.

They make abundance of double Caps and Stockins with Wool of the Country, and of *Limoges*. The Serge made at *La Mothe St. Geraye*, for Quality, Fineness, and the Wool employed there, are the same as at *Maxient*. Page 114.

3. At *Niort*, they employ but the Wools of the Country; the several Sorts of Stuff there made, are Druggets, of Wool only; others, of Wool and Thread; Serge Razes, Etamines buretes, and coarse Cloth Serges. At *Fontenay le Comte*, they make Cloth Yard wide, and Etamines, both of Wool of the Country. At *La Chateigneraye*, are made Cadises, Sergettes, and Cloth Serge; this, with the Wool of the Country, the others, with *Fleuretons de Navarre*. At *Cheuffois*, the same as the former. At *La Meilleraie*, they make only Tiretaines and narrow Druggets. At *Pouzanges*, the same. At *St. Memin*, the same.

4. At *BRESVIRE*, is one of the most considerable Manufactories in the Department of the Inspector of *Poitiers*. Page 115.
The Stuffs made there, are Tiretaines, of Thread and Wool, Serge Razes, and Cloth Serges, all of Wool of the Country only. At *Moncontan*, the Stuffs are Tiretaines of different Fashions, of the Refuse of Wool, The Re-
from *Niort*, *Bourdeaux*, *Xaintes*, and *Senza*. At *Saint Juse or Pierre*, the Stuffs are Cadises, Druggets, of *Fleureton de Navarre*, and Cloth Serges, Ell wide, of the Wool of the Country. At *Thouan*, Cloth Serge, Serge Razes, and some Etamines. The Druggets made at *Partenay* are much esteemed, and have a great Vent; some are of Wool only; others, of Thread and Wool. These last are made of Wool of the Country; the first, only of *Spanish Wool*. At *Azais* are made Druggets, some called *Imperial*, others, common; the last, of Wool only, or Wool and Thread; the first, of Wool and Silk; to make the *Imperial*, they employ only the Wool of *Campo*; for the common, Wool of the Country. Wools of France not useless.
At *Vivoufne* are made coarse Serge, and some Serge Razes. Page 116.
At *Chateau Larcher*, the same, and some Reveches of a low Price. *Messe*, Serge Razes, of the Wool of the Country. *Cuiray*, coarse Serges. *Gencay*, some Serges, some Reveches; both, of Wool of the Country. *Coulognes*, Druggets, all of Wool.

5. They grow in the Generality of *Poitiers*, about 250 Milliers of Wool, which they employ in the above-mentioned

444 *Memoirs of Wool, &c. Ch. 161.*

tioned Fabrics, and of Stockins and Hats. They consume besides, a great Quantity of *Spanish Wool*, called *Wool de Campo*, and *Fleuretons de Navarre*; which they have by the way of *Rochelle* and de *Nantz*, to the Amount of 2000 Bales; every Bale weighing 300 lb. They make in that Generality, from 25 to 30,000 Pieces of Stuff, every Year.

C H A P. CLXI.

Dictionnaire Universel du Commerce.

Of the Commerce of the Generality of Orleans.

Orleanois. 1. **T**HEY make Caps of *Spanish Wool*, Wool of *Berry*, and of the Country, besides Stockins. Their Manufacturies in Cloth and other Woolen Stuffs, employ not only the Wool of the Country, but also a good Quantity of the Wool of *Berry*, *Beasse*, *Brie*, and *Soulogne*. The principal Manufacturies of Cloth, are those of *St. Genoux*, *Clamecy*, *Chatillon sur Loing*, and *Montagris*. There are many more, of Serges and other Woolens; viz. at *Orleans*, Serge tremieres, Serges with two Estains, Frocks, and Baguettes. At *Baugency*, the same, and moreover, Cloth Serge. At *Blois*, as at *Baugency*; also Crapes. At *Vendôme*, and at *Pierre Fitte*, Estamets, and Serges of several Sorts. White Serges called *Tourangelles*, and white Cloth Serges, are made at *Montoir*, *Salbry*, *Souefine*, *Nouan le Fuzilier*, *Vouzon*, *Jergeau*, *Chatres*, *Saint Fargean*, and *Brou*.

2. There is at *St. Aignan* a Fabric of Cordats, or Cloth for the *Capuchines*. The Manufacture at *Cha-teauf* and *Brinant*, are Cloth Serges, Baguettes, and Tiretaines: At *Gien*, Cloth tremieres, white and grey, white Frisons and Estamines. At *Charite* and *Pentbieres*, Cloth Serge, and those called *Felins*. At *Pongoin*, *Cbaudan*, *Razoches*, and *Illiers*, only Serge of two Estains. At

At *Anthoin*, different Sorts of grey and white Etamines, of Wool of the Country, Etamines, of *Spanish Wool*, called *Langres*; Etamines, musc Colour, of Wool of the Country; and other Etamines, whereof the Warp is of the Wool of *Maine*; whence they have it ready spun, and the Woof, of *Spanish Wool*, or fine Wool of *Berry*.

3. *Romorantin* is the most considerable Manufactory Page 161. of the whole Generality; they make above 5500 Pieces every Year, viz. white Cloths five Quarters wide, other Cloths less wide, of the same Colour, white Serge, white grey, and grey, and Serge croissée, partly of the Wool of *Berry*, partly of the Country. They have also settled there a Fabric of white Cloths, half of *Spanish Wool*, half of fine Wool of *Berry*; which Cloths are fit to be dyed Scarlet. The Manufacturers of *Romorantin* having been used to employ the Wool of *Navarre* and *Barbary*; they are forbid to do it, by an Arrêt of Council, April 1706, and again by the Intendant of the Generality, July 1716.

4. They consume in this Generality 200 Milliers of Wool, for the most Part of the Country. They make 25,000 Pieces of Cloth, &c. Foreign Pieces, to the Amount of 14,000, are brought from neighbouring Places, and marked there.

C H A P. CLXII.

Dictionnaire Universel du Commerce.

Of the Commerce of Touraine, Anjou, Maine, and Perche.

1. **T**HE Commerce at *Amboise*, for Etamines and Page 166. Druggets made there, is much esteemed, and a *Touraine*. good many Hands are there employed in them. In *Touraine*, they make little else but Etamines, Serges, Razes, and Druggets. The principal Places where they are made, are *Chinon*, *Richelieu*, *Loudun*, *Loches*, *Beauclicieu*,

clieu, *St. Christophle*, *St. Pater*, and *Laval*, for Etamines and Serges. At *Beaumont*, *la Roue*, and *Roziere*, besides these two Sorts of Stuffs, they make also Razes and Serge tremieres; and at *Montreuil*, *Villelain*, and *Orbigny*, only Serge half Ell, of Wool of the Country.

2. The Druggets and Tiretaines of *Amboise*, are partly, Wool of *Touraine*, partly, Wool of *Berry*. At *Beugny*, they use Wool of *Beaufse*, instead of that of *Berry*. At *Chateau*, *Renault*, *Neuville*, *Pontpierre*, *Maray*, *Neufay*, and *Loisant*, the Razes, Serge tremieres, Etamines, and Druggets, are made of the same Wool as at *Beugny*. In the Fabrics of *Montrichard*, which consists only of Druggets and white Serge, they employ but Wool of the Country.

Anjou. 3. At *Angers*, they make Etamines of different Prices, and Serge tremieres, both, of the Wool of the Country. At *Chateau Gontiers*, Etamines and Druggets after the Fashion of *Lude*, Serge croisées. At *la Fleche*, Etamines, Serges, Druggets, of the Wool of the Country. At *Montreuil Bellay*, the same. At *Beaufort* and *Durtal*, Serges, Etamines, Druggets, all, of Wool of the Country.

Du Maine. 4. They make Etamines and Serge tremieres at *Mayette*, *Chateau de Loir*, *Ferte*, *Bernard*, *Beaumont le Vicomte*, *Mayenne*, and *Laval*.

Province du Maine. 5. At *Le Mans*, are made double Etamines and Camdulets, which are commonly dyed black, three Parts, of Wool of the Country, the rest, of *Poitou*. At *Manjette*, strong Serge tremieres. *Chateau de Loir*, Serge tremieres, all of Wool of the Country. *Ferte Bernard*, all of Wool; others of Wool and Silk, and Druggets, Thread and Wool of the Country.

6. At *Bonnestable*, the Fabric is considerable; they make Etamines like those of *Mans*, except that they are all of the Wool of the Country, and that in the others, a third is Wool of *Poitou*. At *Beaumont le Vicomte*, they make much the same as at *Bonnestable*. At *Mayenne*, Serges tremieres and Druggets with Thread. At *La Vall*, Etamines, Serge tremieres, and Druggets of Thread and Wool of the Country.

7. In the whole Generality of *Tours*, viz. the Provinces of *Touraine*, *Anjou*, and *Maine*, are made about 18,000 Pieces of Stuff, and above 11,000 foreign Pieces are

are marked there. The Wool they employ in those Fabrics, are almost all of the Wool of the Country; which is commonly sold for 60 to * 75 Livres the Quintal.

8. At *Nogent*, are made Etamines.

Perche.

Page 173.

C H A P. CLXIII.

Dictionnaire Universel du Commerce.

Of the Commerce of the Generality of Berry.

1. **S**HEEP and Wool are the chief Commodities of *Berry*. this District. The Wool is good enough; but they employ only the worst themselves; the best and finest being bought up by the Merchants of *Roan*; which is the Reason why the Manufacturers of *Berry* make only coarse Cloth, called Cloth of *Berry*; they are excellent in their Kind, but only fit for Soldiers, Servants, and common People. The other Stuffs of Wool of *Berry*, are coarse Serge, Druggets, Tiretaines and Pinchinats.

2. *Bourges*, *Iffouden*, *Chateroux*, *Vierzon*, *Selles*, *Aubigny* and *Romorantin*, are the Places where the best Manufacturies are settled, among which that of *Romorantin* is most esteemed. (See Chap. 161. §. 3.)

3. The other Places of Manufacture, of Wool of *Berry*, are, *le Blanc*, *S. Amant*, *la Chastres*, *Chastillon*, *Mehun*, *Aubigni*, *Dun-le-Roi*, *S. Benoist-du-Sault*, *Buzancois*

* This is the only Place, in the *Dictionnaire Universel*, where I find any Mention made of the Price of *French Wool*. And here we see that of one of the lower Sorts, the Medium Price was 67 Livres and a half for 100 lb.; which is 7 d. per Pound, i. e. 16 s. 4 d. per Tod, *English Money*. This, at the Time when this Book was committed to the Press, and for several Years before, was something more than the very best long Wool in *England* sold for; which I take to be one Evidence, amongst many, that the Price of *English Wool*, in *England*, has long been depressed considerably below its natural Value.

zancois, Leuroux, Saint-Savin, Sancerre, Linieres, Loret, La Chapelle-danguillon, Aisne-le-Chateau, Saint-Gautier, Ivry-le-Pre, Argenton, Neuvy-Saint-Sepulchre, Argent, Valencay, Cincones, Baugy, Sancergues, Les Aix, Blancfort, and Enrichemont.

4. Besides what has been said above, of the Quantity of fine Wool which the Province of Berry furnishes for Roan, for the Fabric of Cloth in Normandy, the Merchants of that City (Roan) buy up others of the common Wools of Berry for their Manufacture of Tapestry. What remains, is used for making Caps of all Sorts, made in the Province, especially at Bourges.

Bourges,
&c.

Page 176.

5. In this Generality, of 34 Places, where Cloth and other Woolen Stuffs are made, there are seven, viz. Bourges, Issoudan, Chateau Roux, Romorantin, Versen, Selles, and Aubigny, where they commonly make from 3 to 4000 Pieces, each; six, viz. le Blanc, Sancerre, Chateaufauf, Liniere, Ivry-le-Prey, Cencoins, where they make from 2 to 3000 Pieces; and 21 others, where they do not make above 8 or 900 Pieces, each.

Moulin,
&c.

Page 179.

6. The Stuffs at Moulins and thereabout, are Serges, Etamines and Crapes. At Montlucon, Herisson, Decize, the same. Cerey la Toure, partly Serges and partly Etamines. Moulins Engilbert, Cloths, and some other Stuffs. The Tapestry made in this Generality amounts to 80,000 Livres yearly.

Page 180.

Auvergne.

7. In Auvergne, the Manufacture of Etamines, Worsted Camlets, Burats, Cadise, Burailles, and other Woolen Manufacture, is very good.

C H A P. CLXIV.

Dictionnaire Universel du Commerce.

Of the Commerce of Normandy, as divided into three Generalities, Rouen, Alencon and Caen.

Rouen.

Page 185.

1. THE principal Commerce of the Generality of Rouen, consists of Cloth, Serges, Tapestry; wherein are employed 1200 Looms. In the good Manufactury, they



they use but *Spanish Wool*, or the best of *France*; those of *Normandy*, are for Stuffs of an interior Kind. They import to *Roan*, *communibus annis*, 9000 Bales, of which 5000 are *Spanish*; the rest, of the Kingdom.

2. The principal Fabric of the City of *Roan*, and *Roan*. which employed the greatest Number of Hands, was the Page 186. Cloth of *Uffeau*, Ell wide; but now those after the Fashion of *Elbæuf*, have taken their place. This last is good, and improving daily; nevertheless it is not yet come up to the true Cloths of *Elbæuf*. As to the Cloths of *Uffeau*, they keep them up yet; but make less of them, since those after the Fashion of *Elbæuf*, have prevailed. A third Sort of Cloth made at *Rouen*, are Cloths after the Fashion of *England*; but of this last, not so much as of the two former. Other Woolens made there, are, white Druggets, commonly called *Espagnolettes*; other Druggets of all Colours, half Ell wide, and white Ratines, five Quarters wide. They make also *Baracans*, Thread and Wool, $\frac{3}{4}$ wide, very coarse, and *Berluches* or Druggets of a better Sort. These two last Fabrics employ about 60 Looms, and the others, near 200.

3. At *Darnetal*, the Woolen Manufactory is very Page 188. ancient. Their first Statutes are in the Reign of *Henry III.* (1587.) The different Cloths there made are, after the Fashion of *England* and *Holland*; Cloths after the Fashion of *Elbæuf*, *Uffeau*, Druggets or *Pinchinats*. Their Manufactory of Blankets is the second Branch of the Trade of that Town and its Valley.

4. At *St. Aubin La Riviere*, the Manufactory commenced in 1691, in virtue of Letters Patents of 1672, under the Title of a *Royal Manufactory*. They make Cloths after the Fashion of *England* and *Holland*, with Success enough.

5. The Manufactory of Cloth at *Elbæuf*, is an ancient Establishment, and has always been in good Credit for the Sorts of Cloth undertaken there at different Times. Before the great Regulation of 1669, they made there, only white coarse Cloths. But all the Manufacturies of the Kingdom having received Encouragement from *Lewis XIV.* at the Instance of *Mr. Colbert*, those of *Elbæuf* were the first that reaped the Fruits thereof, by two considerable Establishments for fine Cloths after the

Fashion of *England* and *Holland*, and by means of Perfection to which they arrived in other Cloths.

6. At *Orival*, they make only Cloths after the Fashion of *Elbæuf*. At *Louviers*, there are two Sort Cloths made; the one after the Fashion of *England* and *Holland*; the other after the Fashion of *Elbæuf*.

Page 190. *Pont de L'Arche*, the Cloth Manufactory is in great reputation; it was established in 1690. The Draper after the Fashion of *England* and *Holland*. At *Gât* the Manufactory is Serge only, after the Fashion of *London*, well made. *Bolbec* is one of the most considerable Places in the County of *Caux* for manufacturing Sort of Stuff called Frocs, which are esteemed the best of the Kind made in *Normandy*. They are of two Sorts: the one $\frac{2}{3}$ wide; the other, $\frac{1}{2}$ Ell $\frac{1}{4}$. They are of pure Wool of the Country. Gruchet, the same as *Bolbec*.

Page 191. 7. At *Fescamp*, the Manufactory is distinguished in old and new; the old are, very strong Serges, Ell w and Frocs, the same as at *Bolbec*; the new are, Cloths after the Fashion of *England* and *Holland*; first, all of Wool of the Country; the other, partly foreign Wool, partly of the best Wool of the Kingdom. This Manufactory met with Difficulties in the Beginning, by the Fault of those entrusted with it by the Undertaker. But the Dexterity of three Strangers who afterwards the Management of it, hath carried it to Perfection, that Cloth hath been produced there, as good and in all Respects as good as those of *England*.

8. There are a great Quantity of Frocs and Belles made in several Villages of the Bailiwick of *Caux*, especially between *Fescampe* and *Dieppe*, but of an inferior Sort to those of *Bolbec*, either for the making or Goodness of the Wool.

Caen. 9. Cloth and other woollen Stuffs made at *Caen*, Page 193. Cloths after the Fashion of *England* and *Holland*, Ratines, Serges called Lingettes, Frocs and Reveches. 7 Cloths and Ratines of one Manufactory established *Sieur Massieu*, about the End of the seventeenth Century are only of Spanish Wool. The other Woollen Stuffs made here, employ near 700 Looms.

10. *Saint Lo* is in Reputation for the Manufactory of strong Serge, to which it has given its Name. The

make also there, Finettes, and Razes, very much esteemed. These different Fabrics employ about 2000 Workmen, 90 Looms, &c. These Stuffs are excellent; especially if they employ only the Wool of *Cotantin*. Ch. 151.

11. At *Vire*, are made common Cloths, Yard wide; §. 7.
also Serges Lingettes; also in many Villages thereabouts, Page 194.
especially at *Conde*, *Caligni*, *Monsegré*, *Cartemont*, *Cerisy*, and *Frénes*. These Manufacturies employ above 300 Looms; they make commonly 12,000 Pieces a Year. At *Valogne*, is made strong Cloth, of Wool of the Country. At *Cherborough*, the same, but in greater Quantity.

12. *Coutance*, is very fit for a Woolen Manufactory, having all proper Accommodations for that Purpose. The Wools grown there, are excellent: The Water good for dying, especially in Scarlet. There are Abundance of Teazles. They were once famous; but the War of the League having dispersed the chief Manufacturers into other Parts, they make only at present some petty Druggets called Belinges, and other slight Stuffs, partly of Thread, and partly of the Wool of the Country. The rest of the Wool is sold to other Fabrics of the Province, especially at *Saint Lo*, where the ancient Manufacture of Serge of *Coutance* remains.

13. At *Bayeux*, is made, Cloth, Serges, and Ratines. They are good of their Kind. At *Fresne* and *St. Pierre D'Antremont*, they make partly Serge like that of *Caen*, partly slight Stuffs of Thread and Wool, all of Wool of the Country.

14. There is a great Quantity of Wool grown in the Generality of *Caen*; but of different Qualities, according to the Place. Those that grow about the City of *Caen* are worst. Those that grow from *Bayeux* as far as *Cherborough*, and all along the Coast, are the best. These last are employed at *St. Lo*, *Vire*, *Valogne*, *Cherborough*.

15. The Generality of *Alençon* is very considerable Alençon.
for the Manufacture of Cloth and other Drapery. They Page 197.
make there, 50 or 52,000 Pieces, and mark besides, 16,000. Besides the Wool of the Country, they are supplied from neighbouring Provinces.

Page 198. 16. At *Alencon*, they make strong Serge $\frac{2}{3}$ wide, Etamines $\frac{1}{2}$ Ell, Crapes the same. At *Leez*, some slight

Page 199. Drapery, viz. Serges, Etamines. *Argentan*, the same. *Falais*, for the most part, Serge *sur estain*, Ell wide; Serge

Page 200. tremieres $\frac{2}{3}$, &c. *Lisieux*, a Quantity of Woolen Stuffs called Frocs. *Verneuil*, Serge croisée, all of Wool; Druggets, Thread and Wool. *Dreux*, Cloth, strong Serges, Serges after the Fashion of *London*, Estamets, and Demi-estamets; these last are called Linings, because they are employed to line Cloth.

17. *Aumale* gives its Name to a Manufacture of Serge much esteemed; they reckon near 1200 Looms at work there, and round about. It is the only Fabric of the Kind in the Kingdom; they reckon the Commerce there, amounts to 2,000,000, when Wool is at a reasonable Price.

Page 202. 18. *Nogent Le Rotrou* is a Town of the Province of *Perche*, but of the Department * of the Manufacturies of *Alencon*. The Stuffs there made, are of three Sorts; Etamines, of Wool; others, of Wool and Silk; Druggets, Thread and Wool; above 400 Looms are employed there. The Yarn made use of in the Etamines, comes for the most Part, from *Mortagne*, to the Value for the most Part, of 200,000 Livres *per An*.

19. At *Souence*, are made Etamines; some, all of Wool, others, of Wool and Silk. At *Ecouchay*, strong Serge, Ell wide, and Serge tremieres, $\frac{2}{3}$. At *Laigle*, partly Serges, partly Etamines, and the like slight Stuffs.

20. At *Vitre*, Serges are made, of Thread and coarse Wool of the Country, from 12 to 20 Sols the Ell. There are also Etamines, from 15 to 30 Sols *per Ell*.

Bretagne. 21. In *Bretagne*, are employed 800 Looms in making
Page 208. slight Stuffs of Wool, viz. Etamines, Druggets, Serges, Moletons, Crapes, and narrow Cloths, of the Wool of the Country. The principal Places are, *Nantes*, *Rennes*, *Bourg*, *Dinan*, *Saint Brieux*, *Lamballe*, *Chateau-briant*, *Nozay*,

* * The Kingdom of *France*, where is any Woolen Manufacture, is cantoned into several Departments or Districts, called *Generalities*, with an *Inspector* to each, and *Superintendent General* of the whole. And thus we come by this more particular Account of the Woolen Manufacture in *France*, than of any other Kingdom besides.

Norray, Redon, Josselin, Le Guay de Pletant, Sainte Croix, Auvray, Vannes, Malestroit, Rochefort, Chateaufneuf, Longonna, and Raviliac.

C H A P. CLXV.

Dictionnaire Universel du Commerce.

Of the Commerce of Bourgogne, and the Generality.

1. **A**S great Numbers of Sheep are depastured in *Burgundy*, so Wool is a very considerable Commodity there. One Part whereof is employed by the Manufacturers of the Province, who are numerous; the other Part, which is not fit for their Use, is bought up by the Merchants of the neighbouring Provinces. In the Room of which, some is also bought from *Rheims* and *Troie*, more proper for certain Manufactures, viz. for Serge, after the Fashion of *London* and *Seignelay*, where they mix the Wool of *Troie* and *Rheims* with those of *Auxerrois*, which are the best in *Burgundy*. Their principal Manufactures are, Cloths of *Beaune*, *Vitaux*, *Semur*, *Saulies*, *Montbart*, *Rouray*, *Avalon*, *Auxerres*, *Nuitz*, *Pont le Vaux*, *Autun*, *Joigny*, *Sens*, *Villeneuve*, *l'Archeveque*, *Bigny*, and *Ancy la Franc*. The Manufactures of Serges of all Sorts, especially Cloth Serges, and Serges after the Fashion of *London*, are not less considerable; they make them at *Dijon*, *Marcy*, *Auxerre*, in the Hospital, as well as in that of *Beaune*, at *Seignelay*, *Arnay le duc*, *Auxonne*, *Chatillon* upon *Seine*, and *Chassinelles*. Druggets, Tiretaines, Talanches, are made at *Semur*, *Montbart*, *Auxerre*, *Nuitz*, *Beaune*, *Loubans*, *Clugny*, *Mâcon*, and *Montluet*; also in some of those Cities, and especially at *Autun*, Crapes called *Frater*, and *Freilles* 3 Quarters and half wide. The Business of Stockins, after the Fashion of *Havre* and *England*, is carried on at *Dijon*.

Burgundy.
Page 223.

Page 224.

C H A P. CLXVI.

Dictionnaire Universel du Commerce.

Of the State of the Woolen Manufacture in Dauphiny and Provence.

1. **G**RENOBLE is the chief Place of the Fabrics round about ; they make Cloth : At *Voiron*, and five Parishes, are made Druggets and coarse Cloths : At *Turin*, and 9 Parishes, Cloth only : *Saint Marcellin*, and 4 Parishes, Cloths only : At *Reybon*, and 7 Parishes, Cloth, Ratines and Serge. At *Serre* and 8 Parishes, Cloths only : At *Beaurepaire*, Cloths, as also in 3 Parishes belonging to it : At *Saint Jean en Royans*, and 6 Parishes, Stuffs, and above 1000 Pieces of Cloth. This Place is very commodious for a Manufactory, by Reason of its Water.

Dauphiny.
Page 237.

2. At *Romans*, and in 12 Parishes, the most considerable of the whole Province, (except *Dieu le Fit*) are made 4 Sorts of Drapery, viz. Cordelats, 2000 Pieces ; Ratines, 1000 ; Estameux, 14 or 1500 ; Cloths, 15 or 1600. At *Pont en Royans*, and 17 Parishes, are made Cloths only ; at *Crest*, and 13 Places, Ratines and Cordelats.

3. At *Montelimart* is the greatest Manufactory ; they reckon up 25 Places, where Ratines and Sergettes are made : *Tollinian*, and 9 Parishes, make Sergettes : *Dieu de Fit* and 20 Places, make Sergettes only : *Buis* and 3 Places, Sergettes and Cordelats : *Valence*, Cloth and Ratines : *Vienne* and 17 Places, make Druggets.

Provence.
Page 239.

4. The Wool of *Provence* is employed in different Manufactures, of Stuffs and Hats. Their Woolen Manufacture is, Cloth made all of *Spanish Wool*, and Caps, of the Wool of the Country.

5. At *Toulon*, are made two Sorts of Pinchinats ; one, all of *Spanish Wool* ; the other, only of Wool of the Country. The Cadis and Cordelats are made of Wool of *Provence*, viz. in *Aix*, *Gordes*, *Apt*, *Ayguiers*, *Auriol*, *Signe*, *Colmars*, *Digne*, *la Roque*, *Mourve*, *Solarus*, *Cuers*, *Pequant*, *Camouilles*, *Lue*, *Draguinan*, *Lorgues*. They make also in *Colmars* and *Digne*, and thereabouts, Cloths

Cloths 3 Quarters and $\frac{1}{2}$ wide; which are sold partly in the Kingdom, partly in *Savoy*.

6. In many Places of the Principality of *Orange*, they make Serge $\frac{1}{2}$ wide. At *Arles*, narrow Razes. At *Grignan*, Sergettes, all, of Wool of the Country.

C H A P. CLXVII.

Dictionnaire Universel du Commerce.

Of the Commerce of Languedoc.

1. **T**HE Manufactures of Wool established in the two Generalities of *Languedoc*, are, Cloth, Cadis, Burats, Serges, Ratines, Cordelats, Bayes, Crapes, Razes, Tiretaines, Druggets; the greatest Part, for the *Levant*, as the Mahous and Londrins; the others, for the *Swiss* and *Germans*, &c. *Languedoc.* Page 264.

2. The Places where these are made are, *Rieux*, *Grange des pres*, *Lodeve*, *Carcassone*, *Limoux*, *Castres*, *Alby*, *Alet*, *Sainte Colombe*, *Laucianet*, *Laissac*, *la Grace*, *Septes*, *Chalabre*, *Mazanet*, *Ferrieres*, *Caune*, *Bedarrieux*, *St. Sivan*, *Quissac*, *Sainte Hipolyte*, *Bauzely*, *Vigan*, *Ganges*, *Saumennes*, *Anduze*, *Alais*, *St. Gervais*, *Sommieres*, *Gardonnenque*, *Salle*, *Beziere*, *Aniane*, and *Beaucaire*.

3. The Wool employed in these Manufactures is partly of the Country; but the greatest Part is brought from *Marseilles* by the Merchants of *Montpelier*, who buy them unwashed, and after they have dressed them, sell them at the Fairs of *Pezenas* and *Montagnac* to the Manufacturers.

4. At *Alby* in high *Languedoc*, are but two Sorts of Manufacture, Cordelats, and Bayettes; the former, of the Wool of the Country. At *Carcassonne*, the Cloths are made of Wool of *Bezier*, *Narbonne*, and *Spain*. At *Septes*, the Manufacture of Cloth is very considerable; the Wool, *Spanish*, from the Merchants of *Toulon*, *Bayonne*, and *Marseille*. *Limoux* and *Alet*, the Cloths there made, are of the Wool of the Country, and of *Roussillon*.

Page 267. *Saiffac*, a Manufactory of common Cloth. *La Grasi*, Cloths. *Montagne de Carcassonne*, Cloths of different Colours and Breadths. *Castres*, Bayettes, Burats and Coronines. *Maizant* and its Dependencies, Cordelats white, and musc. *Boiffeson*, Cordelats. *Varres*, Serge. *Ferrieres*, Serge. *Caune*, coarse Cloths. *Beddarieux*, two Sorts of Manufacture; one of Druggets; the other of Cloths. *Saint Ponts la Bastide*, white Cloths. *Saint Chinian*, white Cloths, from 3 Livres 10 Sols, to 4 Livres 10 Sols per Ell.

5. The Manufacture of Cloth at *Lodeve*, is very considerable, and in great Esteem; they make 45,000 Pieces white, and grey. At *Montpelier*, Stuffs, Blankets, Hats, Fustians; the Blanket Manufactory is very considerable. At *Quissac*, is a considerable Manufactory of Cadis. Page 269. *Sauve*, the same. *Saint Hipolyte*, Cadis, 75 Looms. *Bauzely ditto*, 60 Looms. *Vigan*, Cloths and Cadis, a very considerable Manufactory. *Ganges*, some Cadis. *Alais*, Serge, Cadis, Ratines, 90 Looms. *Uzez Serge*, 60 or 70 Looms. *Saint Gignaix*, Cadis, 40 Looms. Page 270. *Sommieres*, Cloth Serge, Ratines, and Cadis. *Saint Jean de Gardonnenque*, Cadis. *La Salle*, Cadis, 30 Looms. *Nismes*, a considerable Manufactory of Cloth and Stock- Page 271. kins. *Narbonne*, knit Stockins.

6. At *Beziers*, are different Manufactures of Wool, especially of fine Cloth and Druggets, like those of *Beddarieux*, sold chiefly to *Germany*. The *Royal Manufactory*, of fine Cloth, established at *Clermont*, is very considerable. There are also private Manufacturies there. The Manufactory of Hats there, is also the most considerable in *Languedoc*. *Aniane* has a Manufactory of Cadis. *Beaucaire*, of Cadis and Stockins, and Hats. *Saint Andre de Vul Borgne*, Cadis and Hats. *Marvaix*, Cadis, Hats.

Royal Ma- 7. The *Sieur de Varennes*, having brought Workmen
nufactu- from *Holland*, undertook to make Cloths for the *Levant*
ries of Trade. *Saptes*, near *Carcassonne*, was the Place where
Langued- he first established it; and we may consider it as the
doc, p. 272. Model and the Mother of all the others in the Province
of *Languedoc*. That of *Clermont* and *Lodeve* followed
soon after, viz. in 1678. The States of *Languedoc* lent
them 130,000 Livres, for many Years, without Inter-
rest,

Ch. 167. *Memoirs of Wool, &c.* 457.

rest, and gave them besides, by way of Bounty, a Pistole for every Piece of fine Cloth made there.

8. The third Manufactory, is that of *Carcaffonne*, established and maintained by the *Sieur Castenier*, which has not succeeded less than that of *Saptes*, and *Clermont Lodeve*. The Province gave him the same Advantage as to the two other *Royal Manufacturies*. The Estates of *Languedoc* have since added two others, with the same Encouragements; one at *Rieux*, under the Conduct of *Sieur Gurse*, a *Dutchman*; the other in the Castle *de la Grange des Pres*, near *Penzenas*, under the Direction of the *French* Manufacturers.

9. The last *Royal Manufactory* of *Languedoc*, is that of *Monsieur Chamberlin*, established also under the Authority of the States. It does not make for the *Levant* Trade, but only Woolen Stuffs after the Fashion * of *England*, for the *Spanish* Trade.

10. The annual Product and Manufacture of *Languedoc* in the following Articles, is, Sheep 1,000,000 Livres

Fustians and Bafins	————	90,000
Blankets	————	230,000
Bergames and Tapestry	————	20,000
Woolen Stuffs, fine and coarse,	—	4,100,000
Cloths fine, and others	————	8,450,000
Woolen Stockins	————	40,000
Hats	————	400,000

Total 14,330,000

11. They import Wool of *Spain*, *Constantinople*, *Salle*, *Algier*, and other Parts of *Barbary*, $\frac{40}{100}$ Quintals.

CHAP.

* And yet is it not so much as pretended, that any *English* or *Irish* Wool is imported to *Languedoc*, (see §. 3.)

C H A P. CLXVIII.

Dictionnaire Universel du Commerce.

Of the Commerce of Low Navarre and Bearn, Flanders, the Austrian Low Countries, Lorraine, and Bar.

Navarre and Bearn. 1. **T**HE Wool of *Navarre* is good, and passes for *Spanish Wool*; the finest Sorts are bought by *French Merchants* of different Provinces; of the others, they make some coarse Stuffs for clothing the common People.

Flanders, Lisle. 2. The Product of *Flanders* is, Corn, Cattle, Wool, &c. Their Manufacture, Cloth, Serges, Ratines, and other Woolen Goods, and Stuffs mixed with Silk and Thread; Camlets, Damask, Tapistry, Stockins and Breeches, and other Works of Bonneterie, knit and wove; Burats, Crape, Blankets, and the like; all these at *Lisle*.

Roubaix and Turcoing. 3. At *Roubaix* and *Turcoing*, there are many Looms for Stuffs of Wool, or Silk and Wool, made chiefly for the *Spanish Trade*, and other foreign Countries; some are brought to *France*, and even to *Paris*. At *Menin*, they make Hats of Wool. At *Tournay*, Stockins of Wool, Moquettes (a Kind of Plush) the Stockins are for *Spain* and the *West Indies*.

Page 277. 4. There are also a Number of different Manufacturies; those of fine Cloths that were formerly so flourishing thro-
Ypres, &c. out this Province (where it was said were 4000 Looms) are now only at *Ypres*, *Baitoul* and *Poperingue*; their dying in Scarlet is very fine in the first of those three Cities; and they make also there, as well as at *Honfscotte*, and some other Places, Serge, which is greatly esteemed.

Austrian Low Countries, Bruges. 5. At *Bruges*, is the great Magazine of *Spanish*, and *English Wool*, &c. that serve to supply the Manufactu-
Page 286. ries of that important City. The Stuffs made there, among others, are Anacostes, Lamparilles and Serges, fit for *Spain* and the *Spanish Indies*; also Bayes, and some Camlets.

6. The

6. The Woolen Manufacturies of *Lorraine* and *Bar*, *Lorraine* are only at *St. Nicholas*, and *St. Mary*, and *aux Mines*; and *Bar*, the Cloths are coarse. p. 287.

C H A P. CLXIX.

Dictionnaire Universel du Commerce.

Of the Commerce of the three Bishopricks, Metz, Toul, and Verdun; of Alsace, Rouffillon, Amsterdam, Denmark, Sweden.

1. **T**HE best Manufacturies of Wool in the three *Metz*, Bishopricks, are at *Metz*, and thereabouts; *p. 289.* they are not very ancient, especially some of them, but have arrived to such Perfection; and the Trade is so great, that the Council Royal of the Commerce of *France*, thought it necessary in the Beginning of the 18th Century, to establish an Inspector of them. They make Ratines of all Sorts, different Kinds of light Serge, for Womens Wear, Cloth like the Pinchinats for the Country People, and some Druggets.

2. *Toul* and *Verdun* are less considerable in their Ma- *Toul* and nufactures, they knit Woolen Stockins in all their *Verdun.* Cities and round about; those of *Metz* are most esteemed.

3. At *Strasbourg*, the Capital of *Alsace*, the Woolen *Alsace*, Manufacture is Tapistry, narrow Cloths, Blankets, Fu- *p. 292.* stians.

4. The Wool of *Rouffillon* is fine, almost of the same *Rouffillon*, Quality with *Spanish* Wool; therefore the Manufacturers *p. 293.* of *France* buy there, every Year, for considerable Sums; and though *Rouffillon* has no considerable Manufactory, yet they make Blankets and some kind of Bures or *Page 294.* coarse Cloths.

5. In the Fabrics of *Amsterdam*, and thereabouts, are *Amster-* made, Cloths, Serges, Calamanca, or Calamandres, *dam*, Etamines, Camlets, and a Quantity of other Woolen *p. 410.* Stuffs.

6. By

Denmark, 6. By a Royal Ordinance, *November* 28, 1727, all
P 457. Cloths were prohibited in *Denmark*, except those made
at *Copenhagen*.

Sweden. 7. The Manufacturies of Cloth, erected in *Sweden*,
for the Use of the Army, &c. which had formerly failed,
are now received, and succeed, because upheld by the
Publick, which gives all manner of Encouragement to
the *Scots* and other Undertakers, and hurts the Sale of
English Cloths there. The Court, in Favour to the
Manufacture of the Kingdom, has set a high Duty upon
English Cloths, except such as are finer than those made
in the Country; so that they have no Vent there. The
Undertakers have carried Workmen from *Germany*, and
some from *England*; and besides the Wool of *Germany*,
which they employ, they get a Quantity from *Scotland*,
which is supposed to come from *England*; and without
which it would be impossible * for them to work; their
own Wool being very coarse.

C H A P.

* Here again, Mr. *Savary* is to be suspected of having
Ch. 153. given too much Credit to some *English* Author. The
§. 7. Note. Wool of *Sweden* is allowed to be very coarse. Nevertheless,
this very Year (1746) we have seen in the public Papers, an
Account, of an Edict or sumptuary Law there, forbidding
the Subjects of that Kingdom the Use of any foreign made
Cloth. But has not *Sweden*, besides that of its own Growth,
all the World to range in for Wool, except the Dominions
of *Great Britain*? Is it then impossible for these Manufactu-
rers of *Sweden* to work without *British* or *Irish* Wool? Or,
if it was so, can we, as the Law stands, think it possible
they should be so amply supplied with Wool (as by the
Edict mentioned, they plainly are) from *Great Britain* and
Ireland? The Thing is wholly incredible.

C H A P. CLXX.

Dictionnaire Universel du Commerce.

*Of the Commerce of Venice, Italy, Smyrna,
Tartary, Persia.*

1. **T**HE *Venetians* have a great Vent for Cloths at *Venice*, *Constantinople*; which are, in truth, not so fine p. 484. and beautiful, as those of *France*, *England*, and *Holland*; but nevertheless more esteemed by the *Turks*. Yet it appears that they begin to dislike them; and the War declared between them, in 1714, had well nigh ruined their Commerce. No foreign Cloth is allowed to be imported to *Venice*.

2. The Manufactures of *Bologne* are, Cloths, &c. *Italy*, Bo-

3. At the Scale of *Smyrna*, the *French* vend 150 Bales *logne*, of Cloth, *Londrins* seconds; 100 Bales of *Londres*, broad p. 500. Cloths; 100 Bales of Imperials de *Seuennes*, not of *Ge-Smyrna*, *vaudan*; 200 Cafes of Caps of all Sorts, 60 or 80 Dozen p. 511. in a Cafe.

4. The Cloths carried there, are of three Sorts, viz. Page 514. *Londrines*, *Nims-Londrines*, and *Londres*.

5. The *Londrines* are Cloths of *Holland*, of which the Page 515. finest go to *Constantinople* and *Adrianople*; and the coarsest remain at *Smyrna*, or some other Scales of the *Levant*. Those of *France* which are made at *Sapte* in *Languedoc*, go also for *Londrines*. Only coloured Cloths are sent to the *Levant*; but they are different, according as they are designed for *Persia* or *Smyrna*.

6. The Colours for *Smyrna* are, Scarlet, or red Crimson, Violet, Purple, Green, Prince Colour, and Cinnamon. Those for *Persia* are, *Isa belle*, *Feuille morte*, Yellow, Citron, Orange, Flesh Colour, Celadon, clear Purple, Rose Colour, Carnation, Amarante, grey Pearl, Blue, Lead Grey, and Scarlet. The Proportion of Bales is, $\frac{1}{2}$ for *Persia*, and $\frac{2}{3}$ for *Smyrna*.

7. The *Nijms Londrines* are the finest Cloths of *England*, which are made of *Spanish Wool* only. The *Londres* are also Cloths of *England*, but of a meaner Quality. The common People are clothed with them at

at *Smyrna*; and the *English* truck there for 7 or 8000 Pieces a Year. There is in *Languedoc*, and in *Dauphine*, a Manufacture of Cloths sold to the *Levant* for *Londres* *.

Tartary. 8. At *Astrabath* in *Tartary*, are several Manufactures
Astrabath, of Stuffs of Silk, and Wool; and they make there a Sort
 p. 740. of Camlets much esteemed.

Persia, 9. The Manufacture of Stuffs in *Persia*, is very near
 p. 716. upon the same Foot with those of *France*. As for Cloth, there are no settled Manufactures for them in the ordinary Method of making Cloth. But the *Persian* Workmen are very expert at making a Sort of Cloth very fine from a Material disposed into a Felt, after the same manner as Hats are made. These Cloths they use, to make Clokes, and for Coverings to their fine Carpets.

10. The *English* and *Dutch* have a great Trade for Cloth in *Persia*, by *Gamron*; where they are so much esteemed, that an Ell of middling Cloth is sometimes sold for 20, or 24 Crowns †.

11. In the Assortments of *English* and *Dutch* Cloth for *Persia*, there is also *French* Cloth, especially those called Cloth of *Berry* and *Uffeau*; and it seems now, as if the Manufacturers are arrived to such Perfection, as to be able to outdo their Neighbours; and that the new *India Company* will have no need to send to *London*, or *Leyden*, to furnish their Cargoes designed for *Persia*.

Page 717. 12. The Wools of *Kirman* are the finest in the World. The *Dutch* have a Settlement there, under the Direction of that of *Gamron*. Their Woolen Stuffs are, commonly a kind of coarse Serge for the Habit of the People; but they make fine enough Etamines, Druggets, and Camlets, not inferior to those of *Picardie* and *Flanders*.

C H A P.

* Yet, as before observed †, are no *English* or *Irish*
 Ch. 167. Wools so much as suspected to be imported to these Pro-
 §. 9. Note. vinces.

† This is a Matter that needs some Explanation, since we
 §. 6: have seen before †, that in the Cargoes to *Smyrna*, (whence the *Persians* are supplied) the Proportion of Bales is, $\frac{1}{4}$ for *Persia*, and $\frac{3}{4}$ for *Smyrna*; whereas was Cloth in *Persia*, ordinarily, any thing near so good a Commodity as is here mentioned, the said Proportions would soon be reversed; and there would go $\frac{3}{4}$ to *Persia*, for $\frac{1}{4}$ to *Smyrna*.

C H A P. CLXXI.

Accounts (in Manuscript) of Wool bought and sold, in different Parts of England, for near 40 Years successively.*

N U M B. I. *

1. *A*ug. 9. 1706: sold to Mr. *Leach*
at *Horncastle* [*Lincolnshire*] 27
Tod, at 5 to the Tod, 135 Fleeces, *l. s. d.*
at ————— 0 17 6 per Tod.
4 Tod of small Wool at ————— 0 13 4
 2. *Aug.* 16. 1707. Receiv'd from Mr.
Leach, for 24 Tod $\frac{1}{2}$ a Stone of
Wool, at ————— 0 16 6
 3. *Sept.* 20. 1711. Sold to Mr. *Hargrave*
for Mr. *Smith's* Ule of *Wakefield*, 12 Tod 1 Stone $\frac{1}{2}$, at — 0 13 0
 4. *Aug.* 17. 1713. Wool accounted
for to Mr. *Wells* of *Wragby* [*Lincolnshire*] at — — — 0 17 0
 5. *Sept.* 6. 1714. Sold to *Thomas Driver*, of *Sutton* near *Skipton* in
Craven, 30 Tod of Wool at — 0 18 0
1715, Wool, 21 *l.* 17 *s.* 0 *d.*
6. 1716.

* This is taken from a small farming Account of a Person, who died in the Year 1727; which Account has been in the Custody of the Author of *these Memoirs* almost ever since. He therefore undertakes to be responsible for it, that it is genuine, and capable of all the Proof of its being so, that is possible in a Case of this Nature. Here are indeed some Years wanting; but there is no accounting for that; 'tis enough to say that Persons, out of Trade, are more exact at some times than at others, in keeping their own Accounts.

6. 1716. To *Thomas Driver*, Wool *l. s. d.*
at *per Tod* (5 s. drawn back) — 0 19 0 *per Tod.*

7. Aug. 13. 1717. Delivered to Mr.
Stocks [of *Market-Stanton, Lincoln-*
shire] 15 *Tod* of Wool at. — 1 03 0

8. June 26. 1718. Wool sold to Mr.
Stocks, 18 *Tod* at 20 *l. viz.* near-
ly *per Tod* — 1 02 3

9. Aug. 18. 1719.* Delivered to Mr.
Stocks 3 Packs of Wool, at *per*
Tod — 1 02 0
And 4 *Tod* at — 0 16 0

10. July 25. 1720. Sold to *William*
Sutcliffe 19 *Tod* of Wool at 19 *l.*
viz. per Tod — 1 00 0

1721. Wool unfold.

1722. Unfold again, as appears from what follows.

11. October 1723. Sold to *Thomas*
Driver 90 *Tod* of Wool at — 0 14 0

1724. Wool, as again appears, unfold.

12. October 7. 1725. Sold to Mr.
Robinson [of *Wakefield*] 54 *Tod* of
Wool for the Sum of 36 *l.* which is
per Tod — 0 13 4

N U M B.

* This Account, notwithstanding its being genuine, will not tally (in the Year 1719) with some others; the Reason whereof is not to be assigned at this Distance of Time, *viz.* why in the Year 1719, the Price should be nearer to that of the Years 1717 and 1718, than some others appear to be (there might possibly have been a Precontract.) But (which is most material) in this Account, the Advance of Wool in 1717 and 1718; and its Fall again, from 1720, to 1725, accords with those that follow. (N^o 2, 3, 4.)

N U M B. II.

The following Account is that of a Wool Buyer, viz. Mr. *Thomas Stephenfon* of *Wragby, Lincolnshire*, dead some Years since; but which Account is in a small Pocket-Book, delivered to the Author of *these Memoirs* by Mr. *David Stephenfon* of the same Place, Nephew to the deceased, who is ready to attest that it is all of his said Uncle's, or of his own Hand-writing; being Memorandums, of Wool bought, for seven Years successively, viz. from 1715 to 1721 inclusive, viz. in 1715, of ten several Growers; 1716, of one Felmonger, and 29 several Growers; 1717, of 28 several Growers; 1719, of 13; 1720, of 15; 1721, of 10 Growers. And as he did not buy, every Year, of all the same Growers, to shew more exactly the Rise and Fall of Wool, I shall exhibit an Abstract of this Account, in the manner following; beginning with one Person, of whom he bought for those seven Years successively.

		<i>l.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>
1. <i>William Emmet.</i>	1715—at—o	18	0	
	1716 ——— 1	0	0	
	1717 ——— 1	4	6	
	1718 ——— 1	4	6	
	1719 ——— 1	0	0	
	1720 ——— 1	0	0	
Throwing in half a Stone of W. a Stone of W. a Stone of W.	1721 ——— 1	0	0	
	1715 ——— 0	17	6	
	1716 ——— 1	0	0	
2. <i>John Westmoreland.</i>	1717 ——— 1	4	6	
	1718 ——— 1	4	6	
	1719 ——— 0	19	6	
	1720 ———			
	1721 ——— 1	0	0	
To throw Wool in				
3. <i>William Harrison of Fiskerton.</i>	1716 ——— 0	19	6	
	1717 ———			
	1718 ——— 1	3	0	
	1719 ——— 1	0	3	
	1720 ——— 1	1	0	
	1721 ——— 1	1	0	
July 4. A Stone of Wool in				

		<i>l.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>
4. <i>Mr. Simon of Bullington.</i>	1715	—	0	18 0
	1716	—		
	1717	—		
	1718	—	1	5 6
	1719	—	1	1 0
	1720	—	1	1 6
July 28.	1721	—	1	1 0
July 17.				
Half a Guinea over.				
5. <i>John Holdforth of Fiskerton.</i>	1716	—	1	1 0
	1717	—		
	1718	—		
	1719	—	1	1 0
	1720	—	1	1 6
	1721	—	1	1 0
August 23.				
6. <i>Mr. William Richardson of Bardney Daines.</i>	1716	—	1	1 0
	1717	—	1	5 0
	1718	—		
	1719	—		
	1720	—	1	1 9
	1721	—	1	1 0
August 23.				
7. <i>John Barker of Fiskerton.</i>	1716	—	0	19 6
	1717	—	1	4 6
	1718	—		
8. <i>Mr. Forster of Strabby.</i>	1716	—	1	1 0
	1717	—	1	6 0
	1718	—	1	5 6
	1719	—		
A Guinea over.				
9. <i>Mr. George Wells of Wragby.</i>	1716	—	1	1 0
	1717	—		
	1718	—	1	6 0
	1719	—		
	1720	—		
	1721	—	1	1 6
10. <i>Mr. Knight.</i>	1717	—	1	5 0
11. <i>Mr. Jenkinson's and young Mr. Forster's Wool, in the Marsh.</i>	1717	—	1	7 0
12. <i>Mr. Bell.</i>	1717	—	1	7 0
13. <i>Mr. Jenkinson's Marsh Wool.</i>	1718	—	1	7 0
14. <i>Mr. John Forster. jun.</i>	1718	—	1	7 0

NUMB. III.

A Letter from Mr. *William Pell* of *Stalingborough*, to *James Ward*, Esq; of *Market Raisin*, *Lincolnshire*, dated *Aug. 30, 1744.*

S I R,

I Have herein sent you the Price of my Father *Clipsam's* * Wool and mine, as sold, the Years following, am, &c.

William Pell.

1716 per Tod	20 s. 0	1721 per Tod	20 s. 0
1717 ———	24 s. 6 d.	1722 } ———	19 s. 0
1718 ———	25 s. 0	1723 } ———	19 s. 0
1719 ———	20 s. 0	1724 ———	16 s. 0
1720 ———	21 s. 6 d.	1725 ———	16 s. 6 d.

NUMB. IV.

Of the Prices of Wool, from 1716 to 1725 inclusive, as transmitted to the Author from Mr. *Davies*, a Wool Stapler of *Grantham*, *Lincolnshire*, by the Hands of Mr. *Samuel Forster* of *Grantham* aforesaid.

Years	Pasture Wool per Tod.		Fallow Wool per Tod.		Long Skin Wool per Pa.	Head Wool per Pack.		
	s.	s.	s.	s.	s.	l.	s.	d.
1716	18	to 21	15	to 16	8	5	7	15 0
1717	20	26	18	20	10	15	8	17 0
1718	20	24	17	20	10	0	9	0 0
1719	18	22	16	17	10	0	8	15 0
1720	18	20	16	18	8	5	7	15 0
1721	15 6 d.	17	15	15 6 d.	7	10	7	0 0
1722	17	18	14	15	7	5	6	15 0
1723	16	17	12	13	7	5	6	17 6
1724	13	15 6 d.	9	10 6 d.	7	0	6	0 0
1725	13	15 6 d.	9	10 6 d.	6	15	5	12 6

G g 2

NUMB.

* Mr. *Clipsam* was a *Grafter* at *Walesby* near *Market Raisin* in *Lincolnshire*; whose Daughter Mr. *Pell* marry'd, and succeeded to the Farm, some time, between the Years 1716 and 1725.

N. B. See (Chap. 174. §. 20.) the Reason for being so very particular here, as well as in N^o 1, 2, 4.

N U M B. V.

Mr. *Parcival Teale*, a considerable Grafter of *Imingham, Lincolnshire*, his Account, of Wool fold, from the Year 1718 to 1744 inclusive, as sent to the Author by the Reverend Mr. *George Clarke*, then Vicar of *Imingham* aforesaid (now Rector of *East-Barkwith* in the same County) in a Letter dated *Feb. 4, 1744-5*; who says, Mr. *Teale's* Manner is, to file his *Tod-Bill* every Year; noting upon it the Price he sells at; and that he himself copied the following Account from the said Bills upon the File.

N. B. To this Account are added the Woolen Exports from *England*, also the Imports of Wool and Yarn from *Ireland*, as often as the same have by any Means occurred to the Author within this Period; only omitting in the Woolen Exports, the odd Shillings and Pence.

Years	Wool per Tod.			Woolen Exports from England.	Imports of Wool and Yarn from Ireland.
	<i>l.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>	<i>£.</i>	At a Medium of 8 Years to <i>Lady-day</i> 1728,
1718	1	1	0	2,673,696	227,049 Stone.
1719	1	0	6	2,730,297	<i>Essay by Mr. Dobbs,</i>
1720	1	1	6	3,059,049	p. 76.
1721	1	0	0	2,903,310	271,291 Stone.
1722	1	0	0	3,384,842	
1723	0	17	6	2,920,601	
1724	0	16	0	3,068,373	
1725	0	16	0	Woolen Exports	
1726	0	15	9	from England, from	138,632
1727	0	16	0	1725 to 1728 in-	130,229
1728	0	18	0	clusive, on a Me-	130,212
1729	0	18	0	dium, exceeded the	130,521
1730	0	18	0	Exportations, of 16	
1731	0	19	0	or 18 Years ago,	
1732	0	19	0	200,000 <i>l. per ann.</i>	
1733	0	18	6	<i>Essay by Mr. Dobbs,</i>	
1734	0	16	0	1729. p. 77.	
1735	0	14	0	From Christmas 1737	
1736	0	14	0	to Christmas 1738.	
1737	0	14	0		
1738	0	13	6	4,158,643	
1739	0	13	0	3,218,273	
1740	0	14	0	3,056,720	Stone. Lib.
1741	0	14	0	3,669,734	144,700 8
1742	0	15	0	3,358,787	135,397 8
1743	0	19	6	3,541,558	131,410 15
1744	1	1	0		103,839..

N^o. M^B. VI.*Of the Price of Cotefwold Wool, Gloucestershire.*

20th December, 1745.

S I R,

I Have sent you an Account of the Price of Wool, as it hath been sold upon our Hills, for Six Years past, viz.

	<i>l.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>
1740, 1, 2. at per Tod, —	0	12	0
1743, — at —	1	0	0
1744. — — —	0	17	0
1745. — — —	0	16	0

Our Tod is 28 Pounds.

N. B. The same Gentleman being desired to extend his Account down to the Year 1737, and also to give his Opinion touching the Reason of that extraordinary Advance which appears above, in the Year 1743, viz. from 12 s. to 20 s. he gave for Answer, as follows,

	<i>l.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>
1737, — — —	0	11	0
1738, — — —	0	11	0
1739. — — —	0	11	6

‘ The Reason of the extraordinary Advance in 1743, was not, any Deficiency in the Growth of that Year, but the many and great Calls to *France*; for the most of our Wool (to our Shame be it said) was then bought by Commission, for that Kingdom.’

N U M B. VII.

Of the Prices of Wool in the Isle of Wight.

	<i>l.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>
1737, 8, 9. — — —	0	11	0
1740, — — —	0	12	0
1741, — — —	0	13	0
1742, — — —	0	14	0
1743, — — —	0	17	0
1744, — — —	0	18	0
1745. — — — }	0	16	0
	0	17	0

G G 3

N U M B.

N U M B. *Price*

The Prices of Wool, in the Isle of Wight, compared with the same, of Coteswold, viz.

	Isle of Wight.				Coteswold.		
	<i>l.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>		<i>l.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>
1737,	0	11	0	—————	0	11	0
1738,	0	11	0	—————	0	11	0
1739,	0	11	0	—————	0	11	6
1740,	0	12	0	—————	0	12	0
1741,	0	13	0	—————	0	12	0
1742,	0	14	0	—————	0	12	0
1743,	0	17	0	—————	1	00	0
1744,	0	18	0	—————	0	17	0
1745.	}	0	16	—————	0	16	0
		0	17	—————			

Let us remark here, the Agreement, and the Difference in Price, at several Times, between the Wools of Coteswold, and of the Isle of Wight; namely, that from 1737 to 1740 inclusive, they were altogether the same, excepting the small Variation, for one Year (1739) of 6 d. a Tod. Whence, and from what has occurred elsewhere, may be inferred, that those Wools are, as near as may be, of the same intrinsic Goodness.—But in 1741 and 1742, the Wools of the Isle of Wight advanced, one Shilling a Tod, each Year; while, in the same Years, those of Coteswold were at a Stay, viz. at the same low Price as in 1740.—On the other Hand, the Wool of the Isle of Wight made but a small Advance, comparatively, in 1743 viz. from 14 to 17 s. per Tod; when that of Coteswold rose from 12 to 20.—Again, in 1744, the Wool of the Isle of Wight advanced yet one Shilling more, viz. to 18 s.; and the Wool of Coteswold dropped from 20 to 17 s.—And how is all this to be accounted for? From the Nature, and the Arts of Stock-Jobbing.

We find (N^o. 6.) the Wool of Coteswold pretty much bought up by Commission, i. e. by, or for extraneous Chapmen, such as had not, till then, interfered with those, who in the foregoing Years (from 1737 particularly) had

been used to engross, and in Consequence of Combination, to purchase it on their own Terms.

While such Combination kept its Ground, the Wool of Cotswold could (we see) make no Advance, as did that the Isle of Wight. — But, in 1743, the Strife of apmen; in other Words, an Increase of the usual Number of Buyers, in Proportion to the usual Number of Sellers, led the Market for Cotswold Wool, even considerably and the advanced Price of that of the Isle of Wight.

It's true, our Letter (N^o. 6.) informs us, that this extraordinary Advance in the Price of Cotswold Wool, is the Effect of its being bought up, with the View of sending it to France; and which possibly might be the Case. But, as I presume the Author of that Letter was not privy to such illegal Doings: So neither could he be certain, that a Share of the Cotswold Wool was not bought up in that cheaper Season likewise (from 1737 to 42) for the very same evil Purposes, of clandestine portation.

All that we can reasonably conclude therefore, and with Certainty, is, that Wool Buyers, whether for home use, or for clandestine Exportation, will combine, as much, and as often, and as long as they can, against the Sellers of Wool; and that so far as any such Combinations prevail, and so long as any such indirect Practices are continued, so much are the Wools of England under the Pressure of a Monopoly. And when, and so far as these are by any Means dissolved, or broke into; so far the Commodity recovers its Liberty, and comes up to its natural Price.

Of this we have a glaring Example in the Case above, of Cotswold Wool; and which Instance proves further and demonstrably, that the Price of English Wool in England, is not influenced (as we have been given to believe, and has been commonly imagined) by the Quantity of Woolen Goods exported; seeing that in 1737, Cotswold Wool, and Wool of the Isle of Wight sold but 11 s. per Tod, although the Woolen Exports (1737—8) were 4,158,643 l.; while in 1743, they were but 41,558 l. viz. less in 1743 than in 1737—8, by 7,085 l.; notwithstanding that the Price of all English Wool was about one Third dearer, and that of Cotswold particularly, was near twice as dear in 1743, as

472 *Memoirs of Wool, &c. Ch.*

in 1737. *The Wool of Coteswold actually rose, in from 12 to 20 s. per Tod. And though this genevance in the Price of Wool in England (1743 what it had been sold at, in some foregoing Years, cularly in 1737, was then (1743) universally believed to have been the Effect of much larger Woolen Exports 1743, than in 1737—8; yet this universal Believing since appeared to be so much the Reverse of is surely a Matter deserving the Notice of the Gentleman at least, and his Contrivance and be deavours to shake off that Yoke of Monopolish Ab Oppression, which has been so long, and so much to the Landed Interest and its Dependants.*

C H A P. CLXXII.

Page 86. *From the Traite Le Negoce D'Amster by the Sieur Jean Pierre Ricards, 172*

THE Price of Wools at *Amsterdam*, about the End of July 1719.

<i>Wools of Germany.</i>	1. De Rostock & de Gripſwalde, de Stralsfund & d'Anclam, — — —	100 lb.	{ Florins. 44 a 45 }	{ <i>English</i> nearly per at a Medium 10 d.
	2. De Stetin, de 'Thorn, de Dantzick, & de Pruss.	100 lb.	{ 46 a 51 }	11 d.
	3. De Colberg, de Luneburg, & de Breme, — — —	il n'y en a pas.	{ 30 a 33 }	7 d.
<i>Of Poland.</i>	4. Laine d'Ete de Pologne, — — —	la lb.	{ 9 a 11 Sols. * }	11 d.
<i>Of Persia.</i>	5. Laine de Carmenie rouge, ditto		{ 44 a 46 }	4 s. 2
	blance, — — —		{ 32 a 39 }	2 s. 7

* Twenty Dutch Sols are 22 d. $\frac{1}{4}$ *English*: So the Price of *Laine d'Ete de Pologne*, was, on a Medium, at

<i>Spanish Wools.</i>	<i>Sols Dutch per Pound.</i>	<i>English Money nearly.</i>	<i>Wools of Spain.</i>
6. De Segovie, superfine ———	40 a 41	3 s. 9 d. to 3 s. 10 d. $\frac{1}{4}$	
Ditto fine ———	36 a 37	3 s. 4 d. to 3 s. 5 d. $\frac{1}{4}$	
Ditto ordinaire ———	30 a 37	2 s. 9 d. $\frac{1}{4}$ to 3 s. 2 d.	
7. Fine de Burgos ———	31 a 32	2 s. 10 d. $\frac{1}{4}$ to 2 s. 11 d. $\frac{3}{4}$	
Ditto Ordinaire ———	30 a 31	2 s. 9 d. to 2 s. 10 d. $\frac{1}{4}$	
8. Soria Segoviane ———	32 a 33	3 s. to 3 s. 1 d. $\frac{1}{4}$	
De los Rios ———	32 a 33	3 s. to 3 s. 1 d.	
De Lomberos ———	28 a 29	2 s. 7 d. to 2 s. 8 d. $\frac{1}{4}$	
9. Albarazingrande ———	25 a 26	2 s. 4 d. to 2 s. 5 d. $\frac{1}{4}$	
Ditto fine ———	27 a 28	2 s. 6 d. $\frac{1}{4}$ to 2 s. 7 d. $\frac{1}{4}$	
Ditto petite ———	21 a 22	1 s. 11 d. to 2 s.	
10. Casseres ———	27 a 28	2 s. 6 d. $\frac{1}{4}$ to 2 s. 7 d. $\frac{1}{4}$	
11. Seguenca Segovianne ———	30 a 31	2 s. 9 d. $\frac{3}{4}$ to 2 s. 11 d.	
Seguenca ———	21 a 30	1 s. 11 d. $\frac{3}{4}$ to 2 s. 9 d. $\frac{1}{4}$	
12. Quenca ———	23 a 24	2 s. 2 d. to 2 s. 3 d. $\frac{1}{4}$	
13. Cabeffe deBues ———	24 a 25	2 s. 3 d. $\frac{1}{4}$ to 2 s. 4 d. $\frac{1}{4}$	
14. Serena ———	22 a 23	2 s. 1 d. to 2 s. 2 d.	
15. De Malaga ordinaire ———	19 a 20	1 s. 9 d. $\frac{1}{4}$ to 1 s. 10 d. $\frac{3}{4}$	
16. De Puertos ———	29 a 30	2 s. 8 d. $\frac{3}{4}$ to 2 s. 9 d. $\frac{3}{4}$	

17. Caval-

11 d. $\frac{1}{4}$ per Pound, at *Amsterdam*, in *July 1719*; when the best *English* combing Wool did not exceed (in *England*) 9 d. per Pound. Whence it appears, that these *Polish*, and also some other *German* Wools, are at least, either of equal Goodness with the *English*, (consequently, there is not that Reason for prohibiting absolutely the Exportation of *English* Wool, which is commonly alledged) or else the *English* Wools are depressed below their natural Value; the latter, I suppose to be truly the Case; and which (according to Sir *Josiah Child*) is a never-failing Motive to clandestine Exportation.

Ch. 48.
§. 3.

474 *Memoirs of Wool, &c. Ch. 172.*

<i>Spanish Wools.</i>	<i>Sols Dutch per Pound.</i>	<i>English Money nearly.</i>
17. Cavalleres —	30 a 31 —	2 s. 9 d. $\frac{1}{4}$ to 2 s. 11 d.
18. Molina —	26 a 27 —	2 s. 5 d. to 2 s. 6 d. $\frac{1}{4}$
19. De Castille —	25 a 26 —	2 s. 4 d. to 2 s. 5 d. $\frac{1}{4}$
20. De Campo —	18 a 19 —	1 s. 8 d. $\frac{1}{4}$ to 1 s. 9 d. $\frac{1}{4}$
21. De Estramadure —	23 a 24 —	2 s. 2 d. to 2 s. 3 d.
22. De Seville —	20 a 21 —	1 s. 10 d. $\frac{1}{4}$ to 1 s. 11 d. $\frac{1}{4}$
23. De Navarre —	13 a 14 —	1 s. 2 d. $\frac{1}{4}$ to 1 s. 3 d. $\frac{1}{4}$
24. D'Andalousie —	20 a 22 —	1 s. 10 d. $\frac{1}{4}$ to 2 s. 0 d. $\frac{1}{4}$
25. D'Estramadure —	20 a 23 —	1 s. 10 d. $\frac{1}{4}$ to 2 s. 1 d. $\frac{1}{4}$
26. De Trixito —	24 a 25 —	2 s. 3 d. to 2 s. 4 d. $\frac{1}{4}$
<i>Wools of Portugal.</i> 27. Laines, de Portugal —	22 a 28 —	2 s. 0 d. $\frac{1}{4}$ to 2 s. 7 d. $\frac{1}{4}$

Ch. 105. §. 14. *N. B.* We are told ^t that the *English* import only the best *Spanish Wools*; whence is to be inferred, that some *English Wools* are equal, to all Intents and Purposes, to the *Portugal* and inferior *Spanish Wools*. But no *English Wool* being commonly sold in *England*, at any thing near the Price of these at *Amsterdam*; it is an Argument, even to Demonstration, that the *Wools of England* are not suffered to take their natural Price; and this is the true Reason of that invincible Propensity to the *Runnage of Wool*, which has been so much a Topic of Complaint, for upwards of 80 Years last past.

C H A P. CLXXIII.

Of Fullers, Fulling, Fullers Earth, and Teazles : From Chambers's Dictionary, the Dictionnaire Universel du Commerce, and the Philosophical Transactions, &c.

1. **FULLER**, a Workman employed in the Manu-
factories, to full, mill, or scour Cloths, Rattens, Cham-
bers's *Dict.*
Serges, and other Woolen Stuffs, by Means of a Mill ; *Fullers and*
to render them thicker, more compact and durable. *Fulling.*
2. *Fullers Earth*, a fatty, fossile Earth, abounding in *Fullers*
Nitre ; of great Use in the Woolen Manufacture. It *Earth.*
serves to scour Cloths, Stuffs, &c. and to imbibe all the
Grease and Oil necessarily used in the preparing, dressing,
&c. of the Wool. It is dug * in great Plenty out of
certain Pits near *Brickhill* in *Staffordshire* † ; also near
Ryegate in *Surry* ; near *Maidstone* in *Kent* ; near *Nutley*
in *Suffex* ; and near *Woburn* in *Bedfordshire* ‡. It is ab-
solutely

* ‘ It is a Commodity, which the *Dutch* cannot get in Chap. 41.
any Quantity, or Worth, nearer than the *Streights*.’ §. 14.

† ‘ The Island of *Skys* in *Scotland*, produces Fullers Ch. 120.
Earth.’ §. 16.

‡ *Of the Pits for Fullers Earth in Bedfordshire, a Let-Philosoph.*
ter : By Mr. B. Holloway, to Dr. Woodward. n. 379. *Trans. a-*
p. 419. Sept. &c. 1723. *bridged.*

‘ From the Surface, for about six Yards depth, there are Vol. 6.
several Layers of Sands ; under this, a thin Stratum of Part 2.
red Sand Stone ; then, for seven or eight Yards more, p. 132.
Sand again ; then, *Fullers Earth* ; the upper Layer, about
a Foot deep, not good for Use. After this, good *Fullers*
Earth, for about seven or eight Foot ; but distinguished
into several Layers, at the Distance of about a Foot and
an Half from one Horizontal Fissure to another. And it
is obervable in the Site of this Earth, that it seems to
have every where a pretty equal Horizontal Level. These
Pits are digged in that Ridge of Sand Hills, by *Woburn*,
which, near *Oxford*, is called *Sbotover* ; on which lies
Newmarket Heath ; and which extends itself from East
to West, every where, at the Distance of eight or ten
Miles,

solutely necessary to the well dressing of Cloth; and hence Foreigners, who can procure Wool to be clandestinely exported out of the Kingdom, can never reach to the Perfection of *English* Cloths, without Fullers Earth*. For this Reason, it is made a contraband Commodity; and the Export made equally criminal with that of Wool†.

3. *Teazle*:

* Miles, from the Hills, called, in *Cambridgeshire*, *Gog Magog*; in *Bucks* and *Oxon*, the *Chilton Hills*, &c. from the Chalky Matter of which they consist.

† This I take Notice of, because it confirms what you say of the regular Disposition of the Earth into like Strata or Layers of Matter commonly through vast Tracts: From whence I make a Question, whether *Fullers Earth* may not probably be found in other Parts || of the same Ridge of Sand Hills, among other like Matter.

|| *It may very probably, and if there was the same Encouragement for the one, as there is for the other; there would be as many Attempts to find out Fullers Earth in Great Britain, as there have been, to find Coals. — But the Discouragement, in this Case, is, that Fullers Earth must not be exported; although Coals may; and yet nothing is more certain, than that Coals are equally, at least, necessary to Manufacture in general, as Fullers Earth is to the Woollen Manufacture in particular. Nor can there be a Reason assigned for prohibiting the Exportation of Fullers Earth, which will not hold equally, nay stronger, against the Exportation of Coals. Yet, don't I think, that the Exportation of Coals ought therefore to be prohibited.*

* God hath not only given us Wool in Abundance, but another necessary Material, *Fullers Earth*, without which Cloth is not to be made; and (as they say) is not to be found any where else but in this Land*.

* Ch. 62.

§. 1.

† It is infamous to suffer Fullers Earth, Pulling, Clay, Teazles, &c. to be carried to *France*, &c.

* Ch. 84.

§. 15.

† But (*à contra*), * In *Holland* and *France*, they have no Fullers Earth; and yet make as fine Cloth as we do in *England*.

* *Dictionary Universel du Commerce*, p. 527-8.

* The Fullers* first make use of Urine, after that, of scouring Clay, or Potters Earth, in the last Place, Soap dissolved in warm Water. The Cloths full'd with Soap only, are better full'd, and in much less time, than those in which Urine and scouring Clay is used; they are less subject

3. *Teasle* †: This Plant is cultivated with great Care *Teasles*. in several Parts of *France*, particularly in *Normandy* ‖; and the Exportation thereof prohibited, by Reason of the vast Use thereof in the Woolen Manufacture *.

CHAP.

‘ to Holes, and softer in the Hand, and receive a better Colour from the Dyer.’

Thus it appears, that Mr. Chambers has not been more happy in the Choice of his Authors, touching Fullers Earth, than upon the Subject of Wool itself.

† *Carduus Fullonum*, or the Fullers Thistle, a Kind of Plant much used by the Fullers, Cloth Workers, and Stockin Weavers, to card or draw out the Wool or Nap, from the Thread or Ground of several Kinds of Cloths, Stuffs, Stockins, &c.

‖ It is propagated in several Parts of *England*, more or less, but in the greatest Quantities, at *Wrington* in *Somersetshire*.

* ‘ This Plant ’ is cultivated with Care, in many Pro-*vinces* in *France*, particularly in *Normandy*, about *Leny*, *nature Uni-*
‘ *Louier*, *Elbæuf du Portigeois*, *Pont—de—l—Arche*; and *versel du*
‘ in *Picardy*, towards *Tresnoi*; and in *Languedoc*, about *Commerce*,
‘ *Gignac*, and other Places. P. 795.

‘ Those of *Picardy* are the best and most esteemed. They are used partly in the Manufactures of that Province. Nevertheless, a Quantity of them is sent to the Fair of *Beaucaire*; where the Merchants of *Lyons* buy them by Wholesale, to retail them to the Workmen in the *Lyons*.’

‘ The *Teasle* is sowed, as Barley, in the Month of *March*. *The Man-*
‘ In the Month of *August*, it is transplanted, like Cabbage, *ner of pro-*
‘ and ought to stand a Year. So that the Heads are fit to *pagating*
‘ be gathered towards the End of *July*, or Beginning of *August*, according as they come to Maturity. *and raising*
‘ *Teasles*.’

‘ These *Teasles* have been thought so necessary to the Woolen Manufacture, that it was not permitted, to export them, without a Licence; according to an Arret in 1689; and which laid their Duty, on Exportation with Licence, at 10 Livres the Balc, of 150 lb. Weight.

‘ The Exportation of that Sort of them, called the *Chardon Bonnetier*, having been absolutely forbid by an Arret 1715, the Liberty of exporting them out of the Kingdom, was again given by an Arret, *December* 21, in
‘ the

C H A P. CLXXIV.

Of the Plague at Marseilles, and its Consequences to the Woolen Trade and Wool of England.

AS the calamitous Circumstance, of the Plague at Marseilles, was an Incident, which has been commonly said to have been greatly favourable to the Trade of this Kingdom;

‘ the same Year. The Cause * of it was, the great Crop thereof in the Province of *Normandy*, the foregoing Years; by which Means, the Barns and Warehouses of those that grew them, and traded in them, were overstocked. And therefore, to facilitate the Trade with Strangers, the Duty on Exportation was reduced to four Livres, instead of ten.’

* *N. B.* Methinks our Author here, assigns a Wrong, i. e. a false Reason for a right or just Measure taken in *France*, by repealing (in the Month of *December*) an *Arret*, which had issued so lately, as in the very same Year. This Repeal (he tells us) was a Consequence of the extraordinary Plenty of *Wool* produced in *France*, in the two foregoing Years. — But as that was a Circumstance which did exist in some Measure, and consequently might have been known, in a Degree, before the going out of the first *Arret*: So, the Prohibition in this Case, was plainly, either a Policy grounded upon erroneous Principles, or else, a Point carried by the *Woolen Manufacturers*, or, some *Merchants of France*, upon narrow, selfish, in a word, *Monopolist Views*; which immediately appeared (inasmuch as the usual foreign Passage for *French Wool* was no sooner dammed up, but the Commodity was found to want a proper Vent, and was in Danger of perishing in their overcharged Barns and Warehouses, to the Discouragement of the Grower at least, and so far forth to the *Landed Interest* of that Kingdom) in Consequence of which Appearance, instead of continuing the Obstruction, it was judged prudent, not only to remove it instantly, but to open a wider Outlet for this their Produce, than before had been allowed of (since the Year 1689) by reducing the Duty on Exportation, from ten to four Livres. How much wiser in this Case, were the French, than in some similar Regards, are the B——ish Politics, upon a vain, ill grounded Supposition, of their being beneficial to Trade and Manufacture!

Ch. 174. *Memoirs of Wool, &c.* 479

Kingdom; and upon which much Stress has been laid, for Proof of certain Maxims long held, in regard to the Woolen Manufacture, and the Price of English Wool in England; it is therefore, *altho' in some measure already* spoke to, reserved as one of the most critical, interesting Events contained in these Memoirs, to be here more particularly considered in the last place.

Ch. 123.

§. 5. Note.

Ch. 140.

§. 18. Note.

Ch. 142.

Nº 6.

Ch. 148.

§. 8—10.

1. The Author of the *Traite le Negoce d'Amsterdam*, A. D. 1722. speaking of *Marfeilles*, says, 'It was about a Year ago very populous; but the Plague, which has not yet entirely ceased, has so raged since 1720, that this poor City is almost reduced to a Desert. Nevertheless, there is Hopes that this fine and great City, by its good Situation for Commerce, will draw new Inhabitants that will make the Commerce flourish again, as before. Most part of the Merchandize that has come from thence within a Year past, has been burnt, to prevent the Infection in those Parts, for which they were consigned; which has caused great Loss to the Insurers at *Amsterdam*.'

2. The Author of the *Atlas Maritimus Commercialis*, printed A. D. 1727, speaking of the *French Woolen Manufactures*, and Trade for the same, says, 'They had extremely lessened the Demand [from *England*] in Italy and Spain; and we had some Threats that they would throw us out of the Trade at *Cadiz* for the Spanish West Indies; and perhaps they might have gone a great way towards it, had not the Hand of Heaven interposed, and given the *French* such a Blow by the late Plague in *Languedoc*, as it's thought they will never recover, or at least, not in many Years.

Ch. 119.

§. 8.

'But' the Plague has been a double Blast upon them; for besides the Havock it made of their People in some of the most populous Provinces, where the Manufactures were carried on to the greatest Height; all the Ports of *Europe* have been, as it were, shut against them; and so far have their Neighbours been from admitting them to trade, that several of their Ships are said to have perished at Sea; the Men being starved to Death; merely because they could not put into any Port for Provisions, or for so much as fresh Water. This at once deprived them, for many Months, of all

§. 10.

'the

‘ the Trade of the whole Kingdom of *Spain*, as well as of the Ports of *Italy*; not a Piece of their Goods was permitted to go in the Galleons to *New Spain*, or in the *Portuguese* Fleets to *Brazil*, for two Years together; in both which consisted the Prosperity of their Manufactures; and by which they were always supplied with ready Money, for the carrying them on.’

3. *Of what Advantage this was to England*, Mr. Joshua Gee says, ‘ We may judge by examining into the mighty Demand there was for our Woolen Goods, when *France* was visited with the Plague, and stopped from supplying foreign Markets. The Demand for our Woolen Goods increased to so great a degree, that the like has not happened for many Years.’

4. The Author of *Observations on British Wool*, A. D. 1739. ‘ When the Plague was at *Marseilles*, we had then a current Demand for all the Goods we manufactured. The Demand, at this time, was not particular, but universal, for Stuffs, Cloth, Hose, and all Sorts of Woolen Goods.’ And as a Consequence of this, he tells us that ‘ Notwithstanding all foreign Demand for Wool ceased, and all the Wool and Yarn of Ireland was brought to us, BECAUSE it could not be run abroad, OUR WOOL was, then, one Third more in Value than now (1739.) This is a plain evident Fact, demonstrating, that if OUR WOOL could be effectually secured to OURSELVES, the Value of it MUST rise, as it CERTAINLY DID, when the Demand for it was stopped by the aforesaid Occurrence.’

5. Mr. Webber, in his Narrative, ‘ The Plague in *France* putting a Stop to all Intercourse with that Kingdom, our Goods were called for as fast as we could make them; and we sold them at whatever Price we thought fit to set upon them; and OUR WOOL rose from 7 l. and 7 l. 10 s. to 11 and 12 l. a Pack.— These are undeniable Facts; and these Facts undeniably shew, &c.’

6. Mr. Gee, in his Tract, intituled, *An Impartial Enquiry*, &c. A. D. 1742, ‘ When Ships lay Quarantine, Wool rose from 15 to 30 s per Tod.’

7. A Person styling himself, *A Merchant of London*, Author of *A Scheme to prevent the Runnage of Irish Wools to France*, printed for R. Franklin (1745) ‘ When the

Ch. 174. *Memoirs of Wool, &c.* 481

‘ the Plague raged at *Marseilles*, the Demands for
 ‘ Woolen Goods, from foreign Countreies, were so large,
 ‘ that the Wools of both *England* and *Ireland*, were in-
 ‘ sufficient to supply them.’

8. Now, tho’ the *Custom-House* Accounts will not
 perhaps come up to our Expectations, after having been
 thus raised by the foregoing Writers; yet, to shew this
 Affair in the very strongest Light, viz. by leaving out
 the Year 1720 *, as neutral or doubtful, because in *June*,
 that Year, the Plague broke out at *Marseilles*; and the
 Truth is:

As to the Trade of England,

The Woolen Exports were * in

1718	_____	£ 2,673,696	* See Ch. 171
1719	_____	£ 2,730,297	Nº 51
* 1720	£ 3,059,049	_____	
1721	_____	£ 2,903,310	
1722	_____	£ 3,384,842	
Total { 1718 } { 1719 }	_____	£ 5,403,993	
Total { 1721 } { 1722 }	_____	£ 6,288,152	
Total { 1721 } { 1722 }	exceed Total of { 1718 } { 1719 }	£ 884,159	
1723	_____	£ 2,920,601	
1724	_____	£ 3,068,373	
Total { 1723 } { 1724 }	_____	£ 5,988,974	
Total { 1723 } { 1724 }	less than { 1721 } { 1722 }	£ 299,178	
	More than { 1718 } { 1719 }	£ 584,981	

As to the Price of Wool.

Though the Woolen Trade was more in 1721 by £ 884,159, than in 1718; yet that fell something in 1722; and in the two following Years 1723, it fell considerably, altho' the Trade of those two Years exceeded the Trade of 1718 by almost £ 600,000.

9. But tho' the Price of Wool did not fall very much in 1722, from the Price of 1721, yet was it considerably short of what it was in 1718; and in 1724, it fell greatly, even from the Prices of 1722; altho' the Effects of the Plague at *Marseilles* (in regard to the Trade of *England*) had not ceased, admitting that the Distemper itself had: And notwithstanding the Price of Wool did not abate much in 1722 from what it was in 1721; yet I well remember, by particular Circumstances, that in 1722, much of the Wool of the Country lay upon the Hands of the Growers, unfold; and for one of those Years at least, I am positive, uncheapened, *i. e.* not so much as looked at, or asked for by WOOL BUYERS. I do particularly remember a Wool Chapman in *October*

^f Ch. 171. 1723^f, purchasing three Years Wool of one Person, at a low Rate, and giving for the Reason of its being so much a Drug, the Quantities imported from *Ireland* to *Chester*, &c.

^g Ch. 124. And in the Year ending at Midsummer 1723, we have seen^g, was imported, of Wool and Yarn from *Ireland*, 271,291 Stones; which tho' we have very good

^h Ch. 126. Reason^h to think was considerably short of the Quantity imported, within the whole Year 1723; yet was it more than double the Quantity imported annually, from

ⁱ Ch. 171. 1726 to 1729 inclusive, and from 1740 to 1744ⁱ inclusive.

^{N° 5.} 10. Here then we may remark, That it had been long maintained by Writers on this Subject, that a Quantity of Wool exported from *England* or *Ireland* to *France*, or other foreign Parts, but more particularly, if to *France*, was not only the Loss of so much Manufacture and Trade, as to the single Amount of that Quantity; but that the same being multiplied *threefold* at least, every Stone of Wool exported, was losing to *England* the selling of the Manufacture arising from *three* Stones; and every Stone of Wool by any Means detained from clandestine Exportation, was the gaining to *England*:

certain

certain Market abroad, for the Manufacture arising from three Stones of Wool; whence was drawn this very natural Conclusion, 'That in Proportion, as the usual *clandestine* Exportation of Wool from England or Ireland should be prevented, so, MUST the Price of that Commodity in England, advance accordingly.' This, I say, had been long insisted upon, as a fundamental Article, in Support of various Schemes offered, and Opinions maintained, in Reference to the Business of *English and Irish Wool*. And to make the same pass beyond all Possibility of Doubt and Contradiction, was as material, as the Thing itself, if true, was interesting. But though this was an Argument that needed to be confirmed by some very well attested *Facts*: Yet had those, who invented and maintained it, contented themselves for many Years, with bare Assertions, that *so it was*. Till at last, in the Year 1739, the Conveniency of the Doctrine (as we may suppose) tempted the Writer of *Observations on British Wool*, by a small Addition, of his own, to a Circumstance that was true, to pitch upon the Time of the Plague at *Marseilles*, as a Proof incontestable and decisive in this Case. 'Notwithstanding (says he) all foreign Demand for Wool ceased, and all the Wool and Yarn of Ireland was brought to us, BECAUSE it could not be run abroad; yet OUR WOOL was ONE THIRD MORE in Value, than now,' (viz. in 1739.) And, if he had stopped here, he had been, literally, within the Bounds of Truth. — BUT, for the Sake of this beloved Inference, viz. 'That, if our Wool could be effectually secured to OURSELVES, the Price of it MUST RISE.' For the Sake of this Inference, I say, he adds, 'It certainly DID RISE, when the Demand for it was stopped by the aforesaid Occurrence.' And though OUR WOOL certainly DID NOT RISE at this Period; yet to have it commonly believed that it did, made so very much, as they thought, for their several Systems and Schemes, that, after this Writer of *Observations on British Wool*, Mr. WEBBER, Mr. GEE, and the MERCHANT of London, successively improved upon it; and scorning to be ignorant of any Thing relating to this Subject, which any other Writer knew, and which also was so much in their Favour, they perfectly remembered the Case to be exactly according to their respective Representations!

See §. 4

See §. 5,
6, 7.

And indeed it must be allowed, that had the Thing been true, as they represented, their Inferences had been not only just, but greatly to their Purpose.

11. But though the real Circumstances attending this Incident, of the Plague at *Marseilles* (so far as relates to the Price of *English Wool in England*) make nothing (as we have seen) for the Writers abovementioned; yet do they contain a *very plain and interesting PROOF, decisive of a principal Question.* Which Question is, 'Whether, or no, it is a certain Consequence to be expected from confining effectually the Wools of Great Britain and Ireland, that the Woollen Manufacture would so far increase, as that the Price of English Wool in England MUST rise?' This has been averred, over and over again, with much Stress laid upon it (a Sign that the Price of *English Wool in England*, is commonly at least, held to be a Matter of some Consideration) and for the Truth whereof, those Circumstances are a Criterion of Moment, a Test much wanted, and difficult to be obtained by any other Medium. For,

12. Many Persons, who were not much inclined to a Registry of *Wool*, as not being fond thereof, for its own Sake, were yet ready to wish for such a Measure, because they thought it might contribute to the solving of several Problems relating to that important Subject, and particularly this grand one, viz. *how far the Price of English Wool in England was capable of being improved by such a certain Confinement of the English and Irish Wools, as would be the Result of such a Measure?*

13. And tho' a Registry of *some Kind* has been often recommended, and for that End, various Schemes have been repeatedly offered; yet there being considerable Obstacles in the way of them all, it is to be apprehended, that no one will ever be so far approved, as to be carried into Execution. And therefore, next to such a Medium as a Registry itself, this Incident, of the Plague at *Marseilles*, may lead us to conceive what would be the Fruits even of an *effectual Registry*, or (which is thereby propounded) of confining absolutely the Wool of *Great Britain and Ireland*, in virtue of *prohibitory Laws*. For tho' it is not an exact Alternative to a Registry, it is nearly such. It does not indeed prove quite so much, in one Respect;

fect; but in some others, it proves even more than a *Registry itself* could do.

4. It does not, for Instance, certainly follow, that because *France* had no *English* or *Irish* Wool, while the *Wool* was raised there, that therefore no *English* or *Irish* Wool at all was exported in that Period. And yet, we have seen, the Stock of Wool in *England*, and from *Ireland*, was too great even for its Trade at that Time, raised as it was. And as *England* had actually more Wool from *Ireland*, and probably sent less abroad at this, than at other Times; by which Means the *whole Quantity* was too great for the *whole Demand or Consumption*, though that was larger than common; so that very well explains the Reason why, though the Trade of Wool from *Ireland* was considerably more, yet the Price of *English* Wool, in *England*, was something less. Consequently, we may argue from what *has been*, in Conjunction with the Nature and Reason of Things, it is to be appended that an *effectual* Registry of Wool, would be a greater Check to the Price of *English* Wool, in *England*, than the Circumstance, of the Plague in *France*, did; without procuring to *England* those Advantages in the *Woolen Exportation Trade*, which it actually derived from the aforesaid Circumstance, the Plague in *France*. For it is to be considered, that though it is apparent that one Reason of Wool falling at this juncture, notwithstanding the good State of the *English* Trade all the while, was, because the *French* had no *English* and *Irish* Wool, as at other Times; yet it is so clear that the *English Woolen Trade* was then, so much better than usual, because the *French* had no *ENGLISH OR IRISH WOOL*, as, BECAUSE the *FRENCH*, at that Time, were deprived of THEIR TRADE; their MANUFACTURERS were swept away by the Pestilence, their MANUFACTURES themselves burnt, or left to rot at Sea.

And therefore, tho' a Registry of Wool in *Great Britain* and *Ireland*, and the Circumstance of the Plague in *Marseilles*, are so far similar, that with regard to the Price of *English* Wool in *England*, we might expect the same or worse Consequences from the former, than was occasioned by the latter; yet whoever considers the State of *Europe*, and the World at large, as to Wool and

486 *Memories of Wool* C

- Ch. 17. *Woolen Manufactures, according to the Act*
in the Matter of the Dutch Trade—the *1*
 * Ch. 17. *the first General*—*Interruption* in
 1713. *the*—*and* move all the *Exportation* of
 * Ch. 17. *the*—*will* be little Reason to expect
 * Ch. 17. *we* are not in talk. *the* *French Commerce*, a
 1713. *large* for any *uncommon*, extraordinary *Act*
 * Ch. 17. *the* *Treaty of Utrecht*, in *Consequence* were
 Ch. 17. *being* effected—*the* *English* and *Irish* *Wool*,
 N^o 4. *for*, or to *promote* *any* in any *Shape* with
 § 4. *15. There is a further* *Franchise* and *C*
Competition in *the* *Case*, and *any* of *the*
The *Plague* broke out at *Marseilles*, about
End of June 1720. August 25. a Proclamation
England, obliging all *Ships* from the *Indian*
perform *Quarantine*. *October 12. another*
coming from *Barbadoes*, or any *Parts* of *Fr*
ing on the *Bay of Biscay*. *October 27. a*
coming from the *Bay of Biscay*, and from
Guernsey, Jersey, Alderney and Sarze. Febr.
forgoing *Purpose*, including further the *1*
 § 1-7. And tho' the several *Writers* mentioned, *1*
Increase of *Trade*, and a *supposed* *Advance*
of English Wool in England, as *Occurrences*, *1*
Years 1721 and 1722. And though the *fort*
crease of *Trade*, was, from the *Beginning*
Discourse and *Belief*; yet it is very *remarka*
later, the *pretended* *Advance* in the *Price* of
 that *Time*, is not once found in *Print*, 'till *re*
 § 4. after, viz. *Ann. 1739*. And indeed, had
 been *trumped* up much *sooner*, the *Notoriety*
 would then have been *such*, as that *Numbers*
 been able to have *contradicted* it. Had the *1*
 ferred much longer; as the *Memory* of that
 ' Ch. 171. the *Price* of *Wool*, which did really happen
 N^o 1, 2, 3, would have been wholly effaced by *Time*, *1*
 4. have made less *Impression* upon the *Minds* of
 But the *People* having an *indistinct* *Remem*
considerable *Advance* in the *Price* of *Wool*,
near that *Time*, they more readily took for
it was at the very *Time*, and so *swallowed* in
the *Fact* and the *Inference* from it. These *we*
stances favourable to the *Imposture*, and to

Ch 174. *Memoirs of Wool, &c.* 487

founded upon it. But those which follow, being true, make the *Criterion* still stronger, on the negative Side of the Question.

17. It was not long before the breaking out of the Plague in *France*, viz. but in 1717^u, that Wool in *Eng-* Ch. 176.
land, had bore a Price, which tho' not uncommon in for- §. 26.
mer Times, I mean before the *Restoration*^u, yet was such, Ch. 177.
as that the like had not been known in *England*, for near §. 12.
20 Years before, nor since, for almost 30 Years. And
in 1720, just before the breaking out of the Plague at
Marssilles, the advanced Price of *South-Sea Stock* advanced the Price of all other things in *England*, except
Wool; which could not get over the Price of 1716^u, See
the Year before the then late Advance of that Commodity; nor did the extraordinary Advantages, so much Ch. 171.
boasted of, to the *English Trade*, in the Years 1711, above N^o. 5.
those of 1713, keep the Price of Wool from falling
somewhat, in those two Years. Such (we may suppose)
was the increased Quantity of Wool in *England*, by
means of extraordinary Importations from *Ireland*, and See
through a Defect of the usual clandestine Exportations Ch. 126.
from *England*, on the Score of the Plague in *France*; §. 29.
which resolving more Wool into the Hands of fewer
Buyers; in a word, increasing the Number of Sellers in
the *English Markets*, and lessening the Number of Buyers
there, produced that *Effect*, which Mr. *Locke*, with
equal Judgment and Truth, has assured us, will always
proceed from such a Cause.

18. And though, the Plague abating, or rather,
ceasing, after the Year 1722^u, Intercourse was again^u §. 1.
restored with *France*; yet *France* not having recovered
itself from that Calamity, had not, it seems, the same
Occasions, as formerly, for *English* and *Irish Wool*; and
therefore, albeit, the *English Woolen Exportation Trade*
continued to be more, for the Years 1723, by near
600,000 *l.*^u, than it had been in the Years 1718, never- See §. 8.
theless, I conceive, for partly the same Reason as before,
and particularly because there came yet more Wool and
Yarn from *Ireland* to *England*, in the Year 1723^u, than See
in 1721 and 1722, it did not hinder the Price of Wool Ch. 126.
in *England* from falling very considerably. All which P. 8.
Circumstances laid together, are a *Proof*, arising, if
not fully, yet nearly to a Demonstration, that, from pre-
venting

venting absolutely the Exportation of Wool, by a Registry, or by prohibitory Laws, in virtue of high Penalties (was that practicable) there could not be expected any Advance in the Price of English Wool in England; but, on the contrary, an extraordinary Cheapness of it, without any Accession to the English Woollen Exportation Trade, except what (at the Expence of the GROWER) should be purchased by such CHEAPNESS OF WOOL.

19. And yet a contrary Notion, founded on FALSEHOOD, and supported by ERROR and CREDULITY, had very near passed upon the Nation. The Writers above-mentioned had vouched it successively; and they had been uncontradicted. And it was by mere Accident, that the Author of these Memoirs looking into the Manuscript Account (Ch. 171. N^o. 1.) discerned their Forgery. Knowing the Manuscript mentioned, to be genuine, He was confident it could not deceive him; yet judging it not prudent to rest a Point of such Consequence upon a single Testimony, and which also happened to have been, for some Years, in his own Possession, He resolved to look out for collateral Evidence. — When, to his Surprise, what through the Distance of Time, and a Neglect in these Sort of Dealers, viz. Growers of Wool, to keep regular Accounts on this Head, He found the Thing not a little difficult. However, by the Assistance
 * Ch. 171. of some Friends, as mentioned, He did procure the
 N^o 2, 3, 4. written Accounts of Wool sold and bought in that Period. (as see Ch. 171. N^o. 2, 3, 4.) And from these it is very observable, that notwithstanding some little seeming Disagreements, in other Respects, they ALL accord most uniformly in the main Point, viz. in dating that memorable Advance in the Price of Wool, from the Year 1717, which the Writers above-mentioned had artfully fixed to the Time of the Plague at Marjeilles; and made their Use of it accordingly.

20. And thus we have seen, how so considerable a Juncture, for want of being properly noted, when it did happen, was afterwards disguised, and the Conclusion from it inverted: So that if the Affair had not NOW, or SOON, been exemplified, in the Manner in which it here has been, the Important Testimony it conveys, would have been lost; and in its stead, the Reverse thereof, an utter Falsehood, handed down for an indisputable Truth. At least, if
 these

these Testimonies had not appeared, NOW, that there is an Opportunity, and a Possibility of disproving the same, provided they are not true, they must, though afterwards produced, have abated much of their Credit and Weight, BECAUSE contradicting essentially, Accounts that have passed with the Generality of the People, and Opinions which have gained Strength, upon the Authority of those Accounts. FOR THESE REASONS, it was desiræable not to let slip an Opportunity, but that THESE TESTIMONIES, and THIS PROOF, should be communicated to the present Age, and transmitted to POSTERITY, clearly and fully, as the Case admits of, and as it deserves. TO THAT END, The Author has been thus particular ^a in naming his ^a See Vouchers, that in Case any shall be disposed to question the Ch. 171. same, they may have an Opportunity of being satisfied. N^o 2, 3, 4. AND IF NOTHING to the contrary shall appear (as He is confident NOTHING CAN) He hopes what has been here delivered for TRUTH, will, not only for the present, but to future Times, be so accounted of.

C H A P. CLXXV.

A Recapitulation, or Summary of principal Matters contained in the foregoing Chapters, whether in the Way of History, or Argument; which being various and contradictory, are reduced, as near as possible, under general Heads, and ranged in opposite Columns; to the End that the Reader, by comparing the same, and seeing the several Authorities they stand upon, may better judge, on which Side to rest his own Opinion.

N U M. I.

(A)

(B)

^a Chap. 5. 1.
§. 1.

A. D. 1331^a. This Year, the Art of weaving Woolen Cloth was first brought from Flanders into England.

'Lifts.' Upon which Statute Lord Coke observes, 'True it is that Broad Cloths were made in England now, and long before this Time.' (Chap. 4. §. 16.)

^b Ch. 5.
§. 5.

2. A. D. 1337^b, It was enacted that no Wool of English Growth should be transported beyond Sea.

From the Time of Edw. III. the Exportation of Wool has been prohibited, under Penalty of Life and Limb. (Chap. 41. §. 2.)

Edw. III. by keeping our Wools at Home, put a Stop to the Manufacture of the Flanderkins. (Chap.

14. §. 10.)

1. A. D. 1224. viz. 9 Hen. 3. c. 25. was an Act for 'One Breadth of dyed Cloth, 'Russets and Habergeets, 'viz. two Yards within the

2. The Words of the Statute are, 'It shall be Felony to carry any Wool out of 'the Realm, until it be 'otherwise ordained.' This Statute was in 11 Edw. III. and in the 12th and 13th Years of that Reign, the King did make Dispensations of that Statute, in Consideration of Money paid. Chap. 5. §. 5. (See Vol. I. p. 26. A. D. 1338.)

A. D.

Ch. 175. *A Recapitulation, &c.* 497

A. D. 1341. Because the King should, before Michaelmas next, transport 20,000 Sacks of Wool, it was provided that No Man, before that Time, should pass over any Wool, on Pain of treble Loss, Life and Member. Ch. 5. §. 12.

3. The Statute of Edward III. for confining the English Wools, hath continued now, these 300 Years. (Chap. 51. §. 1.) 3. The printed Statute, and which is probably here meant (27 Edw. III. c. 3.) says, 'It shall be Felony' §. 35. 'for an English, Welsh, or Irish Merchant, to transport Wool or, &c. viz. any Staple Commodities.' But c. 1. of the same Statute says, 'They, viz. Wool and other Staple Goods, shall be carried forth by Merchant Strangers. (See Chap. 7. §. 1. Note. §. 3. Chap. 8. §. 18.)

4. Henry VII. made Statutes for Drapery, and for keeping of Wools within the Kingdom. (Chap. 14. §. 9. Note.) 4. The Statute was, 'No Person, during ten Years, shall buy or take Promise, or Bargain, of any Wool that shall grow in Barks, &c. before the Assumption of our Lady [Aug. 15.] next after shearing thereof, but such as will make Cloth or Yarn thereof, nor any Merchant Stranger, before the Purification.' (4 Hen. VII. c. 11.) So that this Statute was not so much a Prohibition on the Exportation, as a Monopoly to the Merchants of the Staple, for a great Part of the Year, viz. from Aug. 15. to Febr. 2. (See Chap. 12. §. 17. Chap. 14. §. 9. Chap. 15. §. 23.)

5. It was provided, that no unwrought Wool should be exported. (Chap. 15. §. 9. Note.) 5. The Statute is, 'None shall carry beyond Sea any Norfolk Wool meet for making Worsted, and Stamins. 6 Hen. VIII. c. 12.

6. 'Till the 15th Century, viz. A. D. 1420, our Wool was all sold in the Fleece to such of our Neighbours as came to fetch it. (Chap. 150. §. 7.) 6. A. D. 1346, the Commons petitioned that the new Customs lately set upon Cloth, (viz. upon every Cloth carried forth by English Merchants, 14 d. and by Strangers, 21 d. and upon every Worsted Cloth, 1 d. and of Strangers, 1 d. ob. ; and

Grotius and Thuanus both date the Origin of the English Cloth Trade low, as the Middle

Middle of the 16th Century; the former, from the Dissolution of the Stilliard Company (1551); the latter, from the Duke D'Alva's Persecution, near 20 Years later; 'till which Time, respectively, they represent the Bulk of the *English*, as but Shepherds and Husbandmen, and their Merchants, as mere Exporters of raw *Wool*. (Ch. 17. P. 8. Note.)

and of every *Litt*, 10 d. and of Strangers, 15 d.) may be taken away.

A. D. 1353, were exported from England, 4774 $\frac{1}{2}$ Cloths, after 40 s. Value; 8061 $\frac{1}{2}$ Pieces of *Worsted*, after 16 s. 8 d. the Piece. (Chap. 6.)

A. D. 1362, Ordered, that Merchants Aliens should not transport *Woolen Cloths*, except that Merchants of *Almain* might carry out *Worsted* and straight Cloths,

and Merchants of *Gascoign*, *Woolen Cloths*. (Chap. 7. §. 6.)

Ch. 8. A. D. 1389ⁱ, enacted, That Merchants and Artificers
§. 20. of *Worsted* in *Norfolk* may sell their single *Worsted* to any Place or Person of the King's Amity, any Prohibition

^h i. e. not or Liberty to the contrary notwithstanding ^k.

withstand- Forasmuch as divers plain Cloths wrought in the Coun-
ing any ties of *Somerfet*, *Dorset*, *Bristol* and *Gloucester*, be falsly
Monopoly wrought with divers *Wools*; insomuch that the Merchants
heretofore who buy the same, and carry them out of the Realm^l to
granted to sell to Strangers, be many times in Danger to be slain, and
any other sometimes imprisoned, and put to Fine and Ransome. There-
Merchants in this fore, &c.

Case. A. D. 1390^m, Merchants of *Kerfies* require that they
Ch. 8. may freely transport the said *Kerfies* for the Old Custom.

§. 24. Note. In the Reign of Hen.

§. 26. VIII. Improvements were made, and something was done [by the *English*] towards furnishing their own Country [with *Woolens*]. But the *Flemings* had still the whole Trade to all the rest of the World. (Ch. 119. §. 5.)

At length, came the happy Reign of Queen *Elizabeth*, when to complete the Ruin of the *Flemings*, as to

The Merchants Adventurers, under the Name of the Brotherhood of St. Thomas a Becket of Canterbury, were a Company exporting Cloth so early as 8 Hen. IV. viz A. D. 1406. (Ch. 34. §. 2. Note.)

A. D. 1414. The Commons petitioned that Straight Cloths called the Dozens of Devonshire and Cornwall might pay Cocket Customs after the Rate of Broad Cloths. (Ch. 10. §. 3.) The

to Trade, the Exportation of Wool was absolutely prohibited. Ch. 119. §. 6.)

The *English Nation* remained in much the same State, in respect to Trade, and Navigation, from the Time of the *Conqueror*, to the Accession of Queen *Elizabeth*; which consisted chiefly in transporting Tin, Lead, Wool, some Leather, Iron, and other Productions sufficient to purchase what foreign Commodities they wanted. (Ch. 122. §. 1.)

Edw. III. was the first Prince, from the Conquest to his Time, that we find took any Notice of Trade. From his Time to Queen *Elizabeth*, we do not find any one Prince that had much Regard for it. (§. 2.)

Edw. III. saw the Advantage of the Woolen Trade, and made a fair Push for having it removed hither; but for want of the like Care in his Successors, it did not take deep Root, till the Reign of Queen *Elizabeth*. (Ch. 123. §. 2.) *

The

The Stat. 4 *Edw. IV.* Ch. 12. c. 1. recites ‘*sundry Deceits* §. 6. *Note.*
‘*and Abuses in making Cloth*
‘*in England, to the Loss of*
‘*the Nation, and Discredit*
‘*beyond Sea.*’

The Stat. 7 *Edw. IV.*
c. 1. says ‘*Divers Per-* Ch. 12.
‘*sons in Norwich and Nor-* §. 10. *Note.*
‘*folk make untrue Wares in*
‘*all manner of Respects, of*
‘*all manner of Worsted,*
‘*by which they lose their an-*
‘*cient Estimation beyond*
‘*Sea.*’

A. D. 1493^r, *Hen. VII.* Ch. 14.
translated the Mart, (which §. 12. *Note.*
commonly used to follow the
English Cloths) from Ant-
werp to Calais.

A. D. 1496^r, He con- §. 13.
cluded a Treaty, called by
the Flemings, *Intercursus*
magnus; by which the Arch-
Duke desisted from the Du-
ty of a Florin which He be-
fore exacted for every Piece
of English Cloth which came
into his Dominions.

Hen. VII. took Recog- Ch. 17.
nizance, of 20,000 Marks, §. 4.
of the Alderman of the Still-
yard at London, that the
Easterlings should not carry
any English Cloth to the
Place

* ‘That King *Henry VII.* was the first Prince that put
‘the *English* upon the Thought of manufacturing their
‘own Wool, must be acknowledged to his Memory: We
‘should not do him Justice, if we did not mention it, as
‘often as the Original of our Woolen Manufacture is spoke
‘of.’

A Plan of the English Commerce. By
Daniel De Foe. P. 126. Edit. 2d.

The Woolen Manu-
 facture was first chiefly esta-
 blished in *England*, in the
 long and happy Reign of
Queen Elizabeth. (Ch. 133.
 §. 2.) †.

*Place of Residence of the
 Merchants Adventurers in
 the Low Countries, or open
 their Fardelles of Cloth in
 the said Low Countries, to
 the Prejudice of the said
 Company, by putting their
 Cloths to Vent there.*

- * Ch. 15. *A Statute**, 27 Hen. VIII. c. 12. recites, 'that great
 §. 26. *Note.* 'Infamy and Slander bad of late Years, risen in fundry
 ' Parts beyond Sea, of the untrue making of Woolen
 * Ch. 17. 'Cloths within the Realm.' About the Year * 1550,
 §. 1. 44,000 Cloths were shipped, yearly, from England, in
 the Name of the Merchants of the Stilliard only.
 * Ch. 17. *A. D.* 1552*, The Company of Merchant Adven-
 §. 8. *Note.* turers transported 40,000 Broad Cloths at one shipping.
 * Ch. 18. So early as 4, 5 of Phil. and Mary*, The Woolen
 §. 9. *Note.* Manufacture appears by the Statute Books, to have
 spread itself through North Wales, South Wales, Che-
 shire, Lancashire, Westmoreland, Cumberland, Nor-
 thumberland, Bishoprick of Durham, Cornwall, Suffolk,
 Kent, the Town of Godalmin in Surry, the County of
 York, City of York; Villages adjacent to the River
 Stroud in Gloucestershire: Besides these other Places more
 anciently

† 'Queen Elizabeth fully stopped the Stream of Wool
 ' which supported the Manufacture in Flanders.

' By this Part of her Management, (prohibiting the Ex-
 ' portation of Wool) the Woolen Manufacture of the *Ne-*
 ' *therlands* received its fatal Wound——; for now, having
 ' no more Wool to work up, the Work itself stopp'd at
 ' once; the Trade expired and died: Nor has it been able
 ' since that, to revive, no not in the least degree; for as it
 ' depended before, entirely upon the Supply of Wool from
 ' *England* for its Support; when that Stream failed, when
 ' that Channel stopped, it could no more subsist, than a
 ' Body without Food, or Life without Spirits.'

Plan of the English Commerce, &c. p. 133.

' Heaven gave to the *English*, Wool, exclusive of all
 ' Nations in the World.

' Their King *Henry* put them upon manufacturing it.—
 ' And their glorious *Queen Elizabeth* shewed them the
 ' Way to find a Market for it [beyond Sea.]

Page 152—3.

anciently noted for being considerable in the *Woolen Manufacture*, viz. London and the Suburbs, Somersetshire, Devonshire, Coventry, and Warwickshire, Norwich, Norfolk, Essex, Winchester, Sarum, Wiltshire, Worcester, and Worcesterhire.

In the Time of Phil. and Mary², the Cloth Trade of England was so very great, that the Trade of exporting Wool was almost wholly decayed. Ch. 26. §. 6.

A. D. 1564², Cardinal Granville prevailed with the Governours of the Low Countries to forbid the Importation of English Cloths; which Prohibition obliged the English to set up a Staple for their Cloths at Emden, a Town of East Friesland. At this Time, the Cloth Trade from England to Antwerp, rose yearly, to about five Millions of Gold, viz. at the lowest Reckoning, 750,000 l. Sterling. Besides which, there was a Trade to Amsterdam, Hamburg, Scotland, Ireland, France, probably, certainly to Sweden and Russia. Ch. 20. §. 1. §. 7.

7. At the Close of the sixteenth Century, the Exportation of any Wool at all was absolutely prohibited, on Pain of having the right Hand struck off.

To prompt their Vigilance for preventing the Exportation of Wool, the Judges, King's Council, and Masters in Chancery in Parliament, are seated on WoolSacks. Ch. 150. §. 5, 6.

7. A. D. 1601², the Company of Merchant Adventurers trading chiefly in Cloth, were in Number about 3500. They exported in Cloth, the Value of a Million, yearly. Other English Merchants had also a great Trade for the same into France and Spain. Besides which, there was a Trade to Turkey, Russia, Sweden, Barbary, Scotland, Ireland, and the Trade of Ch. 25. §. 4. §. 10. Ch. 26. §. 4.

the Merchants of the Stillyard, who continued upon the Foot of Merchant Strangers, not without some peculiar Indulgences; nor had there been any Act, as yet, prohibiting the Exportation of Wool. The Act 8 Eliz. c. 3. against carrying over Sea Rams, Lambs, or Sheep alive, on Pain of having the right Hand struck off, has been misrepresented. For the Exportation of Wool was never once prohibited, or any way molested, during the whole Reign of Queen Elizabeth, otherwise than, as in Queen Mary's Time, by a Duty of 3 l. 6 s. 8 d. the Sack. Nor by our Forefathers was it Ch. 56.

it ever prohibited, unless upon some great Occasion, and for some small Time, (and always ² with ill Consequences to the Nation) 'till the Year 1647.

¹ Ch. 28. Yet so early as the Year 1613^b, before there had been any standing Law, for prohibiting the Exportation of Wool, we find it noted thus: 'A customable Use hath always (i. e. immemorially) been observed to make it [Wool] the Seat of our Learned Judges, in the Sight of our Noble Peers [in the Parliament House] to imprint the Memory of this worthy Commodity within the Minds of those firm Supporters and chief Rulers of the Land.'

8. Before the Peace of Utrecht, we had no Rival in the Woolen Trade but the Dutch. (Chap. 133. §. 1.)

8. A. D. 1671, not only Flanders, Holland and Zealand, but latterly, France is learning to be too hard for us [in the Woolen Trade.] (Chap. 51. §. 2.)

¹ Ch. 56. A. D. 1677¹, some Turkey Merchants know that the Carcassone Cloths find good Prices and many Buyers in the Levant.

² Ch. 59. You² are not only deprived of that general and gainful Vent you had formerly in France itself—But in all other Places where you traffique, you meet the French now (viz. 1677.) at every Turn; and the foreign Post brings News from all Parts, that they are before you, and have undersold you in the same Commodities.

¹ Ch. 88. A. D. 1703¹, Oct. 23. the King of France issued an Arret, ordaining that Stuffs called Bays, Perpetuanas, &c. of their own Manufacture, sent into Italy, shall pay but 30 Sols per 100, Duty.

² Ch. 99. A. D. 1713^m. It is owned on all hands to be true, that the French do send great Quantities of Woolen Goods to Spain, Italy, Portugal, Turkey, the Rhine, &c. (See Chap. 101. §. 3. Chap. 102. §. 5. Note. §. 7. Note.)

N U M B. II.

(A)

(B)

1. The Makers of Cloth beyond the Seas must needs have them [viz. the English Wools] to cover their own Wools

1. To affirm that the Makers of Cloth beyond the Seas, cannot make Cloth without our English Wool, is

Ch. 175. *A Recapitulation, &c.* 497

Wools in the indraping.
(Chap. 33. §. 4.)

Our Wool for Clothing
(i. e. *English* and *Irish*
Wool) is to all the World,
as much a Necessary of
Life, as any thing else.
Cloth for general Use CAN-
NOT be made without it:
NOR any other Sort to Per-
fection. (Chap. 145. §. 1.)

Without *English* or *Irish*
Wools there can be no
Quantity of fine Worsted
Stuffs, nor a middle Sort of
Cloth made in the whole
World. (Chap. 51. §. 3.)

Without *English* Wool
Foreigners can scarce make
a tolerable Piece of Drape-
ry. (Chap. 57. §. 2.)

Foreigners cannot make
neat Woolen Goods with-
out a *Mixture* of *British*
and *Irish* Wool. There-
fore by keeping our own
Wools at home, we might
at once secure the Demand
of the *whole World* on us
for *neat Woolen* Goods, as
the *Dutch* have for their
Spices. (Chap. 132. §. 2.)

Without the Help of our
Wool there could be no or-
dinary low priced * Cloth
made. (Chap. 62. §. 2.)

I know very well that Wool is the Growth of other Countries, as well as England, and in some Countries, in much more Perfection than in England; and they have Dying Goods too, which are wanting here.

Vol. II.

*is as true, as that where-
with the State hath been so
abused, That the Dutch
could not subsist without our
English Cloth.ⁿ That the
latter is false, our own illⁿ Ch. 34
Experience can teach us. §. 1.
That the former is foolish,
those that know the State of
Dutch Land, will tell us.*

Wool^o is abounding in^o Ch. 79;
almost ALL Countries of §. 25.
Europe.

*We know^p that other Na-^p Ch. 45
tions want neither the Art, §. 2.
nor the Materials for making
Cloth.*

*I know^q that it is gene-^q Ch. 140
rally believed, that the §. 1.
making of Cloth abroad, of
our Wool, is that which de-
stroys our Trade; but that is
a Mistake.*

*We know^r that other Na-^r Ch. 105
tions want neither Art nor §. 2.
Materials for the Woolen
Manufacture.*

*Other Nations^s have^s Ch. 107;
Wool, as well as Great §. 4.
Britain and Ireland; and
'tis but cheating ourselves,
to fancy that all the Mate-
rials for Woolen Cloth are of
our own Growth. Portu-
gal, as well as Spain, has
better Wool than ever grew
in England.*

I know^t very well that Wool is the Growth of other Countries, as well as England, and in some Countries, in much more Perfection than in England; and they have Dying Goods too, which are wanting here.

I i

We

* See Chap. 163. §. 1.

Ch. 48. *We should, like the Dutch [and the French] make worst, as well as the best of all Manufactures, it may be in a Capacity [like them] of serving all Men and all Humours.*

Ch. 103. *It is in vain to talk of the Quality of our Manufactures, and their being so preferable to those of France the latter can be sold as cheap, it is plain that the Quantity, is considered by the Buyer.*
 §. 1. *Note.* Chap. 102. §. 7.)

Ch. 107. *If other Nations are not able to come up to the Power of England, they may resolve to be contented with their own. And in all Countries, how few are there who are the best, comparatively, with those who are forced to content themselves with an inferior Sort? In short, an inferior Commodity will always affect the Price of a better, in the same Market.*

2. If the Wools of England and Ireland were secured from Exportation to Foreigners, doubtless England would be the general Market for the whole Universe, for the Matter of Clothing. Woolen Goods, without our Wool, must be purchased from us, at our own Price. (Ch. 131. §. 4.)

By keeping our Wool at home, Foreigners could only be supplied from hence. (§. 8. Note.)

When Foreigners can't have our Wool, we may fix our Goods at what Rates we please, and dispose of them, at whatever Rates we think proper to fix them. (Chap. 148. §. 9.)

of their own. But this bears No Proportion to that of their Workmen, and the great Stock of particular Goods, &c. Chap. 128. §. 3.

2. The Woolen Manufacture is often called *OUR* Manufacture; as if it was not the Growth of other Countries; or other Countries did not know how to work it up. C §. 1. Note.

We compliment on with the Woolen Manufacture, call it OUR V *OUR* Woolen Manufacture as if there was no other Thing in the World Great Britain; and is certainly known that Nations want neither MATERIALS nor PERFORMANCE. Ch. 10

Woolen Goods a Staple Commodity of land, in which they have a natural Advantage of Quantities of very good

3. The Wools of Spain are finer than any other; yet will they not sort in Work with any but English Wool; neither will they be wrought into Cloth, without the Help and Mixture of English Wool (Chap. 41. §. 4.) Neither will any Wools be all mixed together, but English and Spanish (for Cloth) only; because the Spanish is with the English, of one Nature, being formerly English Sheep. (Chap. 51. §. 3.)

The Wool of Spain is so exceeding fine, that it cannot be mixed with the coarse hairy Wool of foreign Growth; nor can they be manufactured together, without the Wool of Great Britain or Ireland. (Chap. 131. §. 5.)

4. Foreign Wool for the most part is so coarse and hairy, that it cannot make several Assortments fit for foreign Trade, without the Assistance of British and Irish Wool. (Chap. 131. §. 5.)

The French Wool particularly is very coarse, fit only to make a Sort of Cloth for Seamen and Fishermen. (Chap. 55. §. 3.)

The Wool of France and Holland is of that Nature and Quality, that it will not make Cloth or Stuffs, for Ornament or Use,

3. It hath been proved Ch. 87. more than once, before the Parliament, that no Cloth above 10 s. a Yard, white, or 13 s. per Yard, mixed, hath one Dram of English Wool in it.

See (Chap. 151—168.) Dictionaire Universel du Commerce.

See particularly, Chap. 156. §. 10. Chap. 158. §. 3—9.

At Romorantin^e, is a^c Ch. 161 Fabric of white Cloths, half, §. 3. of Spanish Wool; half, of fine Wool of Berry; which Cloths are fit to be dyed Scarlet.

At Carcassone^e, the a Ch. 167 Cloths are made of Wool of §. 4 Beziet, Narbonne, and Spain.

4. Of one Fleece^e of Ch. 171 Wool, an Artist will make §. 17.

4 or 5 Sorts, and allot every Sort to the Use it is fittest for; whereas, if that Fleece were all carded through other, the hairy Part would spoil the finer [for] a small matter may blemish anything.

[Though the Wools of France are not (much of them) equal to Spanish and Portugal Wools, nor generally, to the Wools of Great Britain and Ireland; yet several large Provinces of France^e viz. Langue-^e Ch. 151. doc, Berry, Normandy, §. 5, 7, 8.

Use, without a Mixture of ours, (*i. e.* *English* or *Irish*.) and Burgundy, Picardy, and Champagne, produce Wools in good Plenty, which make Cloth, Serges, Razes, &c. very fine. (Chap. 112. §. 3.)

The French make no good Cloth of their own Wool, without at least, one third of *English* Wool, to mix with it. Ch. 150. §. 3.

There come from Holland 2 Sorts of Wool; those of the Country, and those that the Dutch have from Germany, Pomerania, Dantzick, Prussia, Brunswick. These are combed and spun in Flanders; of which they make very fine wove Stockins, and some fine Cloth. (Chap. 153. §. 1.)

The Commerce of Wool is one of the most considerable Branches of Trade in Amsterdam. (Ibid. §. 2.)

The fine Cloths of France are of three Sorts; the finest, is made of the fine Wool of Segovia, without any Mixture; the second, of Segovia Wool, and that of Albarazin; the third, of other other middle Sorts of Spanish Wool. (Chap. 156. §. 3.)

Have we forgot that our Draps de Berry, &c. took their Names from theirs [the French] Manufactures. But if they, or other Foreigners, are pleased with a worse made Cloth than ours, because it is cheaper, are not they in the right, to gratify them? (Chap. 102. §. 7. Note.)

The Druggets of Rheims are commonly made of fine Segovia Wool, spun very fine. (Chap. 156. §. 9.)

In Serge facon de Londres, the Warp is the longest and finest Wool of Berry; the Woof, Prime and Second of Spain, and Portugal. (§. 16.)

Perpetuanas fine, English like, are made at Montpellier, Nismes, Castres, and other Cities of Languedoc, (where no English Wool is pretended to come) some for Cadiz, others for Italy. (§. 17.)

5. French Wool is not worth above 4 *l.* a Pack; mixed with *English*, it is worth above 12 *l.* a Pack. (Chap. 51. §. 11.)

One Pack of *British* or *Irish* Wool, will work up two besides itself, of the coarse

5. The Wool of Tours [which is of the coarse Sort of French Wool] is commonly sold from 60 to 75 Livres the Quintal, (*viz.* about 6 *l.* 10 *s.* the Pack, on a Medium.) Chap. 162. §. 7.

A great Part of the Wool of

coarse harsh Wool of foreign Growth; which otherwise would be useless, in respect to their foreign Trade with *Turky, Spain, and Portugal.* (Chap. 131. §. 8.)

of France hath a Richel Hair in it, like some of our Wool in Norfolk, and some Parts of the North. This Hair continues to stare out, make it into what Goods you will; neither will it dye into any proper Colour. (Chap. 140. §. 1.)

At Rethel, the Mixture which the Workmen make of common Wool, mix'd with fine, lowers considerably the Price and Quality of their Goods. (Chap. 158. §. 4.)

At Moncontan, the Stuffs made, are Tiretaines, of different Fashions, of the Refuse of Wool, from Niort, Bourdeaux, Xaintes, and Senfa. (Chap. 160. §. 4.)

6. Why should we be at the Trouble of contriving to go cheap to Market, as the *French*, and have the Price of our Goods beat down, when we can at once hinder them from going to Market at all, and by having the Market to ourselves be able to fix our own Prices. (Ch. 145. §. 10.)

If we do (as we may do) prevent the Exportation of Wool, we shall put it out of the Power of Foreigners to make the Goods they now make, and consequently oblige them to buy of us. (Ch. 141. §. 3.)

The *French* make wherewith to supply themselves, and other Nations; which they could not do, were they not furnished with Wool from *England* and *Ireland*; their own being unfit

6. *The French can be in no want of Wool, though they should not be supplied with any from England and Ireland.* (Ch. 105. §. 12.)

It is allowed, the French can be in no want of fine Wool from Spain. They can have sufficient coarse Wool also, without coming into England. §. 13.

We take only from Spain, the fine Segovia Wool; but the Spanish have several other Sorts, which answer all the Uses of English Wool. So that France, without coming to us, cannot want Wool for ANY PART of the Woolen Manufacture. §. 14.

Foreigners cannot be prevented from making Cloth. Ch. 73. §. 4.

At Beavais, are made fine Serges, of English Wool only. Reveches, English like, of French Wool.

I i 3 *Flan-*

" See a-
bove §. 5.
(B) viz. at
Moncon-
tan, &c.

unfit to work by itself.
(Ch. 114. §. 9.) "

'Tis fully demonstrated
by the great Charge and
Risk, *England's Rivals* run,
in getting the *Irish Wool*,
that, as they do not need it
for *Quantity*, having *Wool*
of their own, so 'tis for
Quality; without which
they cannot work up their
own into such Goods, that
they rival *England* in (Ch.
125. §. 2.)

' *NO POLY*, occasioned by prohibiting absolutely the Ex-
' portation of *Wool*.' Ch. 153. §. 6, Ch. 141.
§. 32.

Flannels, English like, of
the same, viz. *French Wool*.
(Chap. 157. §. 10.)

[*'Tis the Irish and Eng-
lish, who run the Risk*] 'pro-
' ferring a certain Gain to
' the Dangers which they
' have a Chance to escape.'
[*It is for its Quality, that
our Rivals do buy the Eng-
lish and Irish Wools; and
that Quality is, the PRICE
of it*] 'depressed at HOME,
' below its natural Value,
' in Consequence of a Mo-

N U M B. III.

(A)

1. By engrossing the
Wool of Ireland, we should
engross the whole *Woolen
Trade* to ourselves, with-
out the Possibility of being
rivalled; and [we should]
have it in our Power (as
the *Hollanders* do by their
Spices) to fix our own Prices
(Ch. 131. §. 9.)

sending the Utility of it to
Note. See Ch. 124. §. 5.

2. The Demands for our
Goods abroad, were always
greatest, and the Price of
them, and of unmanu-
factured *Wool*, was always
highest, when the least
Wool was exported, unma-
nufactured. (Ch. 141.
§. 10.)

3. When

(B)

1. Notwithstanding the
contrary is a Common Plea.
Yet those who know any Thing
of the Matter, are well as-
sured that [*Irish Wool and
Yarn*] are a Means to reduce
the Price both of *English
Wool*, and *Spinning*, in
England. Accordingly, at
Times, we find some ad-
mitting the Thing, and do
the Public. Ch. 125. §. 7.

2. There is no Instance to
be given of the Time, when,
Wool selling well in *Eng-
land*, there was not room to
suppose, from other Circum-
stances, that it was at that
very Time, exported, at least,
as much as at any other.
(Ch. 117. §. 13. Note.)

3. *Wool*

When the Plague was at *Marseilles*, our Wool one Third, more in, than it is now (1739.) had a current Demand of all the Goods we manufactured; and notwithstanding the foreign Demand for Wool ceased, and Wool and Yarn of *France* was brought to us, so it could not be run down; yet the Price of it only rose, (Ch. 140.) from 7 *l.* 10 *s.* to a Pack. (Ch. 141.) When Ships lay idle (meaning the Time of the Plague at *Marseilles*) Wool advanced 15 to 30 Shilling per (Ch. 148. §. 8.)

Pestilence; and their Manufactures burnt or left off at Sea. The Effects of the Plague could not cease the Distemper. Accordingly, the Woolen Exports of England, were not only greater in 1721 and in 1722, in 1718 and 1719; but also in 1723 and 1724. *Nevertheless*, Wool, in England, fell in Price, all the; and in 1724, was become considerably cheaper than 19 and 1720.

Wool is now (1739) to 4 *l.* 10 *s.* and 5 *l.* 10 *s.* And it is common, that *France* has certainly, at this Time, 300000; only, 500,000 Packs of *English* and *Irish* Wool, &c. Because, there are now, a Third Part of the Number of Combers, Spinners, and Carders in *France* and *Ireland* which were

3. Wool was, one Third, ^b Ch. 140. dearer at the Time of the ^c §. 18. Note. Plague breaking out at *Marseilles*, than in 1739. But to say that it had advanced, upon the Occasion of that Incident, is a direct Falschhood. On the contrary, it fell in Price; and did so, most probably, as one Reason, because less Wool than common, was exported from England; and because a greater Share than usual, of the Wool and Yarn of *Ireland*, was then brought to England.

The Plague broke out at ^c Ch. 174. *Marseilles*, June 1720. It raged near two Years. During which Time, the French had no Trade from those Parts: Their Manufacturers were swept away

Pestilence; and their Manufactures burnt or left off at Sea. The Effects of the Plague could not cease the Distemper. Accordingly, the Woolen Exports of England, were not only greater in 1721 and in 1722, in 1718 and 1719; but also in 1723 and 1724. *Nevertheless*, Wool, in England, fell in Price, all the; and in 1724, was become considerably cheaper than 19 and 1720.

4. Thus much was true with a Witness. Wool was sold in 1739, and for some Years before, for less Silver than what in 1581, was called the ancient Price; and, for less Silver, by at least one Third, than it actually did sell for in 1581.

And though great Complaints ^d were heard, at this ^e Ch. 142. Time, and particularly for a ^f No 7. few ^g §. 6.

were in 1698. (Ch. 141. *few Years before, of a Dead-*
ness of Trade, occasioned,
 §. 14.) *as was said to be conceived,*

by the Exportation of Wool: *Yet, from Custom-House*
Accounts, since then, exhibited to Parliament, it appears
that Ann. 1737-8, (the very Instant when these Complaints
were loudest,) the English Woolen Exports were more
than $\frac{1}{4}$ greater than in the Year 1699; which Year 1699,
had exceeded all others, to the Year 1713.

N. B. *Though there is not one Tittle of material Truth*
in the foregoing N^o. 1, 2, 3. (Column A.) yet such have
been the most current History, Doctrines, and Opini-
ons upon this Subject. And the Reason why they have been
so industriously propagated, tho' false, was the Convenience
thereof, for the Purposes of Monopoly.

But tho' some Writers, in the opposite Column (B) have
given their Testimony against one Point, (for supporting
which, all the rest have been invented and packed together,) viz.
'That the French and other Foreigners cannot sup-
port their Woolen Manufactures, without the Help of
'English or Irish Wool.' Though, I say, they plainly
give up this, as also that other, (the Consequences of it.)
'That the preventing the Exportation of English or Irish
'Wool, is a Means to raise the Price thereof at home.'
And tho' they will not say that prohibitory Laws in this
Case, are effectual, for preventing the Runnage of
Wool; yet, because such Prohibition is a Means to make
Wool cheaper in England; THEREFORE, for the Be-
nefit of foreign Trade, they hold that Policy to be defen-
sible, upon much the same Principles, on which they have
(some of them) defended the Use of East India Manufactures
in England, although they confessedly both lowered the
Price of Wool, and lessened the Employment of the Peo-
ple on home Manufactures.

Their Arguments to this End (which because not quite
popular, have therefore been more sparingly used) are as
follows, (N^o. 4. (A) with the contrary Sentiments of emi-
nent Merchants, in the adverse Column (B).

N U M B. IV.

(A)

1. It is the Exportation, and not the Consumption of Woolen Manufacture, that must bring Profit to the Kingdom. (*Chap. 79. §. 2.*)

2. The natural Way of promoting the Woolen Manufacture is, not to force its Consumption at home. (*Chap. 79. §. 20.*)

and Increase of this Market ought therefore to be the Thing principally regarded.

3. By a great Consumption of Woolen Manufacture in this Kingdom, the Public will not reap such an Advantage as some imagine. (*Chap. 79. §. 24.*)

In the Woolen Manufacture, England does not get by what is spent here. (§. 26.) 400,000 Pounds worth of our native Goods, sold abroad, does add more Wealth to the Nations Stock, than 4 Millions worth of our home Product, consumed within the Kingdom. (§. 29.)

Trades, and become of the same common Interest with most of their Countrymen.

4. The Estates of England are raised too high, their Labour is too dear. If they will have Commerce;

(B)

1. *The first and best Market of England, are the Natives and Inhabitants of England.* Ch. 100. §. 2.

2. Our own Consumption, of our own People, are the best and greatest Market for the Product and Manufactures of our own Country. *The Preservation* §. 10.

3. 'Tis a Maxim generally assented to, That a Trade may be of Benefit to the Merchant; and an Injury to the Nation. Ch. 98. §. 1.

The Merchant may have a distinct Interest from that of his Country; he may thrive by a Trade which shall be her Ruin. Ch. 103. §. 2.

Merchants, Shopkeepers, Artificers, Clothiers, and other Manufacturers are not the best Judges of Trade, as it relates to the Power and Profit of a Kingdom; 'till being grown rich, they leave off their

4. It encourages Merchants to increase their Exports, when they find a quick Vent for their Imports. Ch. 114. §. 22.

It

merce; they must suffer their Estates to *fall*; their Labour to lower its Price. (*Chap. 129. §. 3.*)

5. 'Tis not the Benefit, nor Interest of *England*, that *Wool* should bear an *high Price*, in our Markets at home. (*Chap. 79. §. 23.*)

Cheapness of Materials is the most proper Means of increasing the Vent of the Manufacture. (*Chap. 73. §. 4.*)

It cannot be ill with *Land* but *Trade* must feel it. (*Chap. 47. §. 1.*)

When Trade deadens in the Fountain; when the Gentlemen and Farmers are kept low; every one in his Order, feels it. (*Ch. 114. §. 22.*)

5. To forbid the Export of any Commodity to another Country, is to command it to be sold at your own Price, to yourselves. (*Ch. 129. §. 1.*)

They that give the best Price for a Commodity, shall never fail to have it, by one Means or another, notwithstanding the Opposition of any Laws, by Sea or Land. Of such Force, Subtilty, and Violence is the general Course of Trade. (*Chap. 48. §. 2.*)

C H A P. CLXXVI

A Recapitulation, or summary Account of the Price of Wool in England, and of the English Exportations in general, and Woolen Exports, in particular, at several Periods, as they have occurred in the foregoing Chapters, and elsewhere: Whence may be seen, at one View, of Wool, its Rise, or Fall; of the Woolen Trade, its Progress, Declensions, Revolutions, &c.

N. B. The ancient Prices and Sums are here reduced to the Quantity of Silver* (nearly) in the present Coin of Great Britain.

	l.	s.	d.	
1. <i>A. D.</i> 1198, Wool per Tod ———	0	15	0	1 Ch. 4.
2. <i>A. D.</i> 1337-8, Wool the best	1	8	0	\$ 14.
3. <i>A. D.</i> 1339, Wool at ———	1	17	8	1 Ch. 5.
	1	12	0	\$ 5. <i>Nass.</i>
	1	1	0	1 Ch. 5.
4. 1500 ¹ Sacks, within the County of } <i>York</i> , at ——— ——— ——— }	1	10	0	\$ 8.
500 Sacks, of <i>Nottingham</i> , at ——— ———	1	11	4	1 Ch. 5.
500 Sacks, of <i>Derby</i> , at ——— ———	1	4	2	\$ 2.
400 Sacks, of <i>Cumberland</i> and <i>Westmore-</i> <i>land</i> , at ——— ——— ——— }	1	1	0	
500 Sacks, of <i>Leicester</i> , at ——— ———	1	14	0	
100 Sacks, of <i>Rutland</i> , at ——— ———	1	10	8	
400 Sacks, of <i>Salop</i> , at ——— ———	1	19	2	
5. <i>A. D.</i> 1353, Wool, on a Medium, at	1	10	4	1 Ch. 6.
6. (<i>A. D.</i> 1390) when Wool was so cheap, by reason of a Law, which forbid Men to carry it, but to such and such Pla- ces, it was sold at ——— ——— }	0	14	9½	1 Ch. 2.
	0	10	0	\$ 29.
	0	8	0	
				<i>A. D.</i>

* But, *N. B.* this, exclusive of the *Duty*, which at this Time, always made a Part in the Price; and which I take to

			l.	s.	d.
^z Ch. 11.	A. D. ^z 1425, Pure Wool, of Leiceſter-	{	0	15	6
§. 5. <i>Note.</i>	<i>ſpire</i> , at † ————			or	
§. 24. <i>Note.</i>		{	0	19	4 ¹ / ₂
^a Ch. 15.	7. A. D. ^a 1533, Clothing Wool, the		0	13	4
	beſt, at ————	{	0	13	4
^b Ch. 23.	8. A. D. ^b 1581, the ancient Price (as		0	13	4
§. 11.	then accounted the preſent Price, ————	{	1	00	0
	and (<i>viz.</i> 1581) ————		1	2	0
^c Ch. 33.	9. A. D. ^c 1622, Wool fallen from ————	{	1	13	0
§. 12.	to under ————		1	00	0
Ch. 34.	<i>viz.</i> to ————	{	0	18	0
§. 8.	10. A. D. ^d 1641, <i>Auguſt</i> , three Years } ————				
^d Ch. 37.	Wool of Belton and Rippingale, Lincoln-	{	1	4	0
§. 4. <i>Note.</i>	<i>ſpire</i> , ————				
^e Ch. 39.	11. A. D. ^e 1651, Ordinary <i>Engliſh</i> } ————	{	1	8	0
§. 10. <i>Note.</i>	Wool at ————				
^f Ch. 56.	12. Before ^f the <i>Reſtoration</i> (1660) Wool } ————	{	1	10	0
§. 11.	of <i>Romney Maſh</i> , commonly, at ————				
^g §. 12.	13. A. D. ^g 1647, ————	{	1	17	6
	1648, ————		2	0	0
^h Ch. 58.	14. After ^h the Year 1650, and } from i	{	1	2	6
§. 10.	before the <i>Reſtoration</i> (1660) ————		3	0	0
ⁱ Ch. 60.	15. In ⁱ the Height of the Civil } to {	{	1	17	4
§. 2.	War, ————		2	2	0
^k §. 5.	16. A. D. ^k 1660, ————	{	1	17	0
			2	2	0
^l Ch. 51.	17. A. D. ^l 1670-1, ————	{	1	8	0
§. 13. <i>Note.</i>	18. A. D. ^m 1677, from ————		0	13	0
ⁿ Ch. 56.	to ————	{	0	15	0
§. 12.	19. A. D. 1694-6, a Medium Price ————		1	8	0
ⁿ Ch. 142.	20. A. D. ⁿ 1698, ————	{	1	1	0
N ^o 2. §. 6.	21. A. D. 1704, in ^o <i>Scotland</i> , from ————		1	10	0
^o Ch. 89.	to ————	{	1	13	4
§. 20.					
					22. A. D.

^x See to have been ^x, of Merchant Strangers, over and above the
 Ch. 7. old Cuſtom of 13 s. 4 d. 46 s. and 8 d.; in the whole, 3 l.
 §. 12. *per Sack*; which, the Shilling then weighing 213 Grains ^v,
 Ch. 8. was more than equal to 10 Shillings *per Tod*, of our pre-
 §. 3. ſent Money. Conſequently, Wool, even at this cheap
^v Ch. 4. Time, was ſold for, in the whole, *per Tod*, 1 l. 5 s. and 1 l.
 P. S. and 18 s. nearly.

† See §. 6. *Note.*

	<i>l.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>	
22. <i>A. D.</i> 1706, in <i>England</i> , ————	0	17	6	<i>P. Ch.</i> 171.
23. <i>A. D.</i> 1707, ————	0	16	6	<i>N^o 1.</i>
24. <i>A. D.</i> 1712, ————	0	15	0	<i>£. 1, 2.</i>
25. <i>A. D.</i> 1713-14, ————	0	18	0	<i>Ch.</i> 109.
26. <i>A. D.</i> 1717-18, ———— from	1	3	0	<i>P. S.</i>
to	1	7	0	<i>Ch.</i> 171.
27. <i>A. D.</i> 1737-8, 9, 40, 41, 42, from	0	11	0	<i>N^o 1.</i>
to —	0	13	0	<i>£. 7, 8.</i>
and	0	14	0	<i>N^o 2.</i>
28. <i>A. D.</i> 1743, ———— from	0	19	6	<i>£. 11, 12,</i>
to —	1	0	0	<i>Ch.</i> 171.
and	1	1	0	<i>N^o 5, 6.</i>
29. <i>A. D.</i> 1353, Wool and Woollens exported, with their Customs, ————	£. 737,021	16	4	<i>Ch.</i> 171.
30. <i>A. D.</i> 1564, the Woolen Trade from <i>England</i> to <i>Antwerp</i> singly, at the lowest reckoning—	£. 750,000			<i>N^o 5.</i>
Besides which ² , there was a Trade from <i>England</i> to				<i>Ch.</i> 6.
<i>Amsterdam, Hamburgh, Scotland, Ireland</i> ; probably, to				<i>Ch.</i> 20.
<i>France</i> ; certainly to <i>Sweden</i> and <i>Russia</i> , if not some to				<i>£. 2.</i>
the <i>Streights</i> too.				<i>£. 7.</i>
31. <i>A. D.</i> 16017. The Com- pany of <i>Merchant Adventurers</i> (in Number, about 3500) exported	1,000,000	00	00	<i>Ch.</i> 25.
Cloths, to the yearly Value of —				<i>£. 4, 5.</i>
Beyond which, there was a Trade to <i>Russia, Sweden,</i> <i>Scotland, Ireland, France</i> , a clandestine Trade to <i>Spain</i> , a considerable one to <i>Turky</i> , a Trade to <i>Barbary</i> , and that of the <i>Merchants of the Stillyard</i> .				
32. <i>A. D.</i> 1612-13 ² . Total	<i>l.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>	<i>Ch.</i> 27.
Exports from <i>England</i> ————	2,487,435	07	10	<i>£. 7. Note.</i>
Imports ————	2,141,151	10	00	
Balance ————	346,283	17	10	
33. <i>A. D.</i> 1621-2 ² . Total				<i>Ch.</i> 34.
Exports ————	2,320,436	12	10	<i>£. 9.</i>
Imports ————	2,619,315	00	00	
Contra Balance ————	298,878	07	02	

^a Ch. 43. ^{P. 8.}	34. <i>A. D.</i> 1662-3 ^b . Total	<i>l.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>
	Exports	2,022,812	04	00
	Imports	4,016,019	18	00
	Contra Balance	1,993,207	14	00

^a Ch. 49. ^{§. 2. Note.}	35. <i>A. D.</i> 1668-9 ^c . Total			
	Exports	2,063,274	19	00
	Imports	4,196,139	17	00
	Contra Balance	2,132,864	18	00

^a Ch. 87. ^{§. 4. Note.}	36. <i>A. D.</i> 1699 ^d . Total			
	Exports	6,788,166	17	06

In 1662 and 1668, Woolen Exports could not exceed *per Ann.* 900,000 00 00

But, in 1699, amounted to 2,932,292 17 06

^a Ch. 88. ^{§. 4.}	37. <i>A. D.</i> 1703 ^e . Total			
	Exports	6,644,103	00	00

^a ^{§. 72:} ^{Mr. Dobbs}	38. <i>A. D.</i> 1710 ^f . ² Total	5	6,690,828	15	2½
	<i>A. D.</i> 1715 ^g Exports	2	7,379,409	03	0

^a Ch. 174. ^{§. 8.}	39. <i>A. D.</i> 1718 ^h . Woolen			
	Exports	5,403,993	00	0

A. D. 1711 ⁱ. Woolen Exports 6,288,152 00 0

40. *A. D.* 1737-8. WOOLEN EXPORTS, in ONE YEAR ONLY. 4,158,643 17 0

^a ^{§. 27.} P. S. Here note the very low Price of Wool, Ann. 1737-8 ^h, and at the very same Time; the high State of the *English Woolen Exportation Trade*.

^a ^{§. 8.} Wool was now, at the *ancient Price* (as it was esteemed, Ann. 1581 ⁱ) of a Mark a Tod, and less. And yet the Woolen Exports, of this Year, amounted to upwards of FOUR MILLIONS Sterling; twice as much as, about the Year 1698, was usually accounted of, by Mr. King

Ch. 176. *A Recapitulation, &c.* 511

King and *Dr. Davenant*; MORE, by above a MILLION, than in the great Year 1699^k, certainly; and probably, ^k \$ 36: by still more, than in the next great Year of Trade (1703^l) MORE, by near as much, than when *England* ^l \$ 37: reaped the Advantage of that calamitous Circumstance, the Plague at *Marseilles*. — Nevertheless — WOOLS, not at the old Price, of 1581 (which was 20 and 22 s. *per Tod*) BUT at (what, in 1581, was accounted the *ancient Price*) a *Mark a Tod*, or less; a Price, ancient as Wheat at 8 d. the Bushel, the Goose at 4 d. and the Hen at 1 d. *ob.*

An untoward Circumstance this, it must be owned, to the *Grafiers* and *Farmers*, the *Tenants*! The *Nobility*, *Gentry*, and *Clergy*, their *Landlords*! Above all, to the *Country Vicars*! with whom a small Glebe, or the Tenth of Wool and Lambs, is in the general, the *only* improveable Part of their Revenue; by which they might hope to bear up against the growing Difference in the Value of Money; the rest being, either some stipendiary Payment, or pecuniary Dues, at least as old as the Goose at 4 d. and the Hen at 1 d. *ob.*

And how did *these*, with the rest of the *Landed Interest*, behave under it? Why, hearing extraordinary Complaints, on the Part, and in Behalf of the Manufacturers, they were touched with Compassion for them chiefly.

It was natural enough to conclude a sufficient Ground for those Complaints, from that single Circumstance, the *low Price of Wool*. And the Managers also and Advocates (in Appearance at least) for the Manufacturers, had the Art to offer that Circumstance, in Proof that there was a *real Decay* in the *Woolen Exportation Trade* (than which, we have seen, nothing was less true). Thus, the *British Woolen Manufacturers*, to the *Members of Parliament*, Ann. 1737^m, ‘Your Honours are fully ^m Ch. 112: apprized even by your Tenants, that the Effects of a \$ 3. declining Trade are now generally felt; and no general Cause can be ascribed, but the great Decay of our *Woolen Exportation Trade*.’

The Author of *Observations on British Wool, &c.* 1738 (p. 53.) ‘Our Trade is considerably decreased.— And even the *Landholder* finds the Inconvenience thereof, by the *present low Price of Wool*.

Again,

512 *Observations and Inferences.* Ch. 177.

Again, the Author of an *Essay on the Causes of the Essay, &c. Decline of foreign Trade, &c.* (begun in the Year 1739, printed, 1744) 'That the foreign Trade of Britain declines, will appear by the following Symptoms, viz.

" Page 6. 'The LOW PRICE OF WOOL, &c. I appeal (says heⁿ) to the Experience of every honest Man conversant in Trade, whether it does not decline, Year after Year; especially OUR WOOLEN TRADE.

" Page 15. 'They^o who furnish all the World with WOOL, have the least of the manufacturing of it among themselves.

" Page 38. 'The declining Demand for Woollen Goods abroad, falls the Price of WOOL at home.'

" Ch. 141. Mr. WEBBER^s, 'The present low Price of Wool
§. 15. 'shews the great Decay of our Trade.—Hence it is evident, that we have not one THIRD PART of the Quantity of Goods carried to foreign Markets, which we formerly had.'

And Mr. Lowndes intitles his Scheme, printed 1745. by Order of the House of Commons. A Scheme—

'In order to RE-ESTABLISH the Woollen Manufacture of England.'

C H A P. CLXXVII.

Observations and Inferences.

1. *A. D.* 1564. when the whole Exports, from England to Antwerp, were 12 Millions, of Gold, yearly, those of Woollen, amounted to 5 Millions^r, of the same. And *A. D.* 1699, when the whole Exports of England to all Parts, were 6788,166 *l.* 17 *s.* 6 *d.* the whole Woollen Exports amounted to 2932,292 *l.* 17 *s.* 6 *d.*^s; which was much in the same Proportion, of $\frac{1}{3}$, or something less than one half. And thus, I suppose, the British Merchant computes, that in 1662-3 and 1668-9ⁿ, when the whole Exports, each Year, did not much exceed 2,000,000 *l.* the Woollen Exports, in each of those Years, could not exceed 900,000 *l.*^z.
- §. 2. Note. By the same Rule therefore, the Woollen Exports of 1612-13^y, and of 1621-2.^z could not exceed a Million,
- Ch. 20. §. 1.
- Ch. 176. §. 36.
- Ch. 43. P. 8.
- Ch. 49. §. 2. Note.
- Ch. 87. §. 4. Note.
- Ch. 27. §. 7. Note.
- Ch. 34. §. 9.

Ch. 177. *Observations and Inferences.* 513

lion, each Year. Consequently, there is Reason to conclude, that the *English Woolen Exportation Trade*, both in 1564, and in 1601^a, (i. e. from the Beginning^a Ch. 20. to the End of Queen *Elizabeth's* Reign) was greater than §. 1. in any intermediate Space, from the Time of Queen Chap. 26. *Elizabeth* to the Year 1678^b; and greater beyond all §. 4. comparison, (the Value of Money and other Things^b Ch. 62. considered) during the whole Reign of Queen *Elizabeth*, §. 12. Note. Ch. 72. than from the *Restoration* to the Year 1678. §. 1. Note. Ch. 100.

2. During the whole Reign of Queen *Elizabeth*, Wool was allowed to be exported, on Payment of a §. 13. certain *Duty*. The Exportation thereof was first prohibited, by a full Parliament, and in good earnest, in Ch. 103. 1660, the Year of the *Restoration* of Car. II; and so it has continued to be, ever since. But as more Woolen Manufacture was exported yearly, during the Reign of Queen *Elizabeth*, than in the Time of Car. II., from the *Restoration* to the Year 1678, (when the Trade with France^c was prohibited); it follows, that more Wool^c Ch. 62. was exported yearly, in this latter Period, tho' absolutely §. 12. Note. prohibited, than in the former, when it was only charged with a *Duty on Exportation*; and that the Policy, of a *Duty*, in this Case, is so far, seemingly, preferable to an *absolute Prohibition*.

3. Again, tho' after the Year 1678, (during the Reign of Car. II. so long as the *French Trade* was prohibited), and in the Reign of King *William*, the Woolen Exports were, (for the same Reason) considerably increased, beyond what they had been, from the *Restoration* to the Year 1678; yet cannot they be esteemed to have been much, if any thing, greater (all Things considered) in the latter Part of Car. II. and in the Reign of King *William*, than in that of Queen *Elizabeth*. Nor, that they were so great, as they probably were, in the latter Part of Car. II. and, certainly, in King *William's* Reign, is it to be imputed to the Policy, of prohibiting absolutely the *Exportation of Wool*; because, had that been the Case, it might have availed equally in the former Part of Car. II. as in the latter, and in the Time of King *William*; and moreover, the latter Periods, of Car. II. (from 1678) and of King *William*, must, for that Reason, have greatly excelled the former, of Queen *Elizabeth*.

4. As to the *Prices of Wool*, if we view them before^d, §. 10—16. and since^e the *Restoration*, we may perceive a manifest^e §. 17—28.

514 *Observations and Inferences.* Ch. 177.

Difference; which in some measure is, I think, to be ascribed to the *Prohibition* taking Place, (more in good earnest especially) from that Time.

5. For, altho', before the *Restoration*, we have seen that Wool was frequently at that or a higher Price; yet, from the Year 1660 to the *Revolution*, have we but once
¹ Ch. 176. met with *English Wool* in *England*, so high as 12 d'
 §. 17. a Pound, or 28 s. *per Tod*; and even this, the Author of
¹ Ch. 51. that Intelligence tells us², was occasioned by an extraor-
 §. 13, 14. dinary *clandestine Exportation of Wool*.

6. Since the *Revolution*, we don't find that *English Wool* in *England*, has ever sold quite so dear as 28 s. *per Tod*, except in some Part of King *William's* Reign, before the Peace of *Ryswick* (1697), and then, as one Cause, through the bad State of the Silver Coin; inso-
 much that a Guinea exchanged for 30 Shillings. Be-
^b Ch. 142. sides which, there were some other particular ^b domestic
 No 1. §. 18. Reasons extraordinary, for an Advance of Wool in that
 Period; all which considered together, *English Wool*
 cannot properly be said to have been sold so dear in *Eng-
 land*, since the *Revolution*, as before the *Restoration*, i. e.
 since the *Exportation of Wool* has been absolutely prohibited
 in good earnest, as before that was the Case.

¹ Ch. 176. 7. We find that Wool, in 1647¹, (when it was first
 §. 13. prohibited to be exported, tho' by an imperfect Legisla-
 ture) was at an high Price. And this was accounted for
 by the Spoil committed, during the Civil Wars. But

^a Ch. 176. we find that Wool was equally dear in 1660², (when it
 §. 16. was, and for the same Reason also probably, again pro-
 hibited to be exported; and that in good earnest too,
 which seems not to have been the Case before.) And
 yet there was not the same Account to be given, as the
 Cause of that Dearness of Wool in 1660, which has been
 assigned for the same in 1647. Consequently, it is to be
 concluded, that the very same Reasons which, in 1660,
 contributed to the advanced Price of *English Wool* in
England, had also some Share in the Reasons of such Ad-
 vance in 1647; and again in the former Part of King
¹ Ch. 176. *William's* Reign, as likewise, in 1717 and 1718¹, and
 §. 26. since, in 1743^m. Now the chief Reasons of the high
^m §. 28. Price of *English Wool* in *England*, in 1660, were plain-
 Ch. 171. ly, the high Price of that Commodity, Wool, in all
 No 8. other Markets abroad: for

ⁿ Ch. 60. 8. If we look back to the Year 1660ⁿ, Superfine
 §. 2, 5. *Spanish Wool* sold, in *England*, for 4 s. and 4 s. 4 d. a
 Pound;

Ch. 177. *Observations and Inferences.* 515

Pound; other Sorts, at 3 s. and 3 s. 6 d. And *English Wool*, in *England*, was then sold at 16 d. and 18 d. the Pound, viz. 1 l. 17 s. 4 d. and 2 l. 2 s. per Tod. In 1667, *Spanish Wool* was not worth above 2 s. or 2 s. 2 d. *English Wool* from 5 d. to 8 d. Again, in 1678, when *English Wool* in *England* was at 5 d. to 7 d. *Spanish Wool* was 20 and 21 d. But in 1680, when, according to Sir *Josiah Child*, *English Wool* in *England*, had advanced to a higher Price; then, as we learn from the *British Merchant*°, *Spanish Wool* had advanced also. In 1719, when *English Wool* in *England* was at 9 d. or 10 d. the Superfine *Spanish Wools* were at more than 3 s. per Pound; and the rest, in Proportion. In 1724, when *English Wool* in *England*, was fallen from the Price of 1719 considerably, *Spanish Wool* Superfine, in France, was at but 52 s. per Pound, viz. about 1 s. 4 d.; the rest, in Proportion. In 1740, when the best *English Wool* in *England*, did not sell for more than 5 d. a Pound°, the *Wool of Cotswold*, but at 5 d. *Spanish Wool*, at *Marseilles*, sold for about half the Price which the same had given there; in 1688°.

9. A. D. 1719, the Price of *Spanish Wools* at *Amsterdam* were, from 3 s. 9 d. to 1 s. 2 d. per Pound, according to their several Sorts. And we are told that the *English* import only the best *Spanish Wools*; whence it is reasonable to believe, that many of the *English Wools* are equal to the middle and inferior *Spanish Wools*.

10. As near as we can judge, *English Wool* sold at much the same Price in *England*, in 1719, and in 1743°. But in 1719, the best combing *Wool* in *England* did not exceed 9 d. or, at the most, 10 d. a Pound. And if we judge of *Cotswold Wool*, in 1719 (which is reckoned among the fine Clothing *Wools* of *England*) by what it sold for in 1743°, it was not full 9 d. a Pound, in 1719; which was far short of what the lowest *Spanish Wools* sold for, in that same Year, at *Amsterdam*°; and which is a Sign that *English Wools*, in *England*, are not at any other Time, sold, Goodness for Goodness, at the Price given for *Spanish Wool*, at *Amsterdam*, and in other foreign Markets.

11. Moreover, the *Wools* of *Poland*, which are called good, though confessedly inferior to those of *England*, nay, and even *German Wools*, which are inferior to those of *Poland*, bore a better Price at *Amsterdam*,

516 *Observations and Inferences. Ch.*

^a Ch. 172. in 1719 ^a, than did the best *English* combing W
§. 1—4. *England*, or the fine Clothing Wool of *Cotefw*

^b Ch. 171. of the *Ile of Wight* ^b.

N^o 6, 7.

12. From all which, it is to be observed, 1
the Price of Wool is very fluctuating, not only in E
but in the World at large. 2. That the Price of
Wool in England, tho' fluctuating, has rarely been
considerable Price, since the Year 1660, when the
tation of Wool was first absolutely prohibited by a su
liament, and in good earnest. 3. That English
in England, is not sold to its intrinsic Worth, acco
the Market Price of Wool in the World at large, o
the Market at Amsterdam is a proper Test and Sta
and the Price of several Wools there, in 1719, (a

^c Ch. 172. in the *Traite Le Negoce d'Amsterdam* ^c) compare
the Prices of English Wool in England, in the

^d Ch. 171. Year ^d, one very plain Proof. 4. But though 1
N^o 5, 6. Wool in England, is never sold to its Worth, ac
See §. 10. to Markets abroad, for other Wools; yet the N
of this abroad, for other Wools, do govern the Price of.
Chapter. Wool in England, more than any other Circum
and much more than the State of the English Wool

portation Trade, as the People have been used to in
and which, in a due Regulation of Things, would l
in my Opinion somewhat erroneous, yet no very un
Supposition; but, as the Case stands, is very wide
Truth. 5. The Reason why English Wools, in E
are so constantly below their natural Value, (the l
Price of Europe) is plainly owing to a MONOPOLY
Case, occasioned by prohibiting absolutely the Expo
of Wool. 6. The Difference between the thus for
artificial Price for British and Irish Wools in E
and their natural Worth, at the common Markets
Wools of the whole World besides, is the principal
the sole Cause of the Runnage of Wool from Gre
tain and Ireland. 7. The Reason why this illicit a
nicious Practice, the Runnage of Wool, has not
been prevented, after repeated serious Efforts of the i
ture for that End, for above fourscore Years succe
is, because the Effect has been considered more th
Cause; and the Laws have been levelled at the Me
Opportunities of exporting Wool; without taki
Thought how to lessen the Temptation to it; otherw

Ch. 177. *Observations and Inferences.* 517

that should be effected by increasing the Penalties: But increased Penalties adding always so much Strength to the MONOPOLY already created against the Growers; and in consequence thereof, bringing the low Price of English Wool, still lower, in England, the Temptation to Runge has thereby increased, along with the Penalties; and the Transgressors, though prevented in some of their Ways, yet, from Time to Time, sought and found out new ones.

13. Thus, has nothing considerable been done, in so long a Course of Time (as upwards of eighty Years) towards the main thing pretended, viz. the preventing the exportation of Wool. Nevertheless, the chief, if not the only Point, which some of the more intelligent Master Manufacturers and Exporters of Woolens, have had in view, has been accomplished all along. I mean, the Price of Wool has been brought down, and kept under; it always at the same Price, but always at much the same Distance from its natural Value; though Ebbing and Flowing, with the Price of all foreign Wools in all foreign Markets.

14. This, so far as is discoverable from any Notices which have occurred in the large Collection of Tracts and other Intelligences, contained in the foregoing Chapters, is the true State of the Case. At least, the several phenomena, in regard to the Rise and Fall of the Prices

English Wool in England, are accounted for, more uniformly, upon this Foot, than upon any other. Nor there any Thing irrational in it. There is nothing in it but what is agreeable to the very Nature of buying and selling, to the Ground and Reason of the Rise and Fall of Stocks, in all Markets, and in all Cases whatsoever:

g. If foreign Wool is cheap comparatively, in foreign Markets, English Wool cannot be dear in the Markets of England; because foreign Markets, for buying of Wool, being open to English Buyers, as to any other Merchants; provided they could do it with any Advantage, they would not fail, in that Case, to pour in foreign Wools upon us. On the other Hand, if English Wool is cheap, comparatively, in England, and foreign Wool dear, in foreign Markets, that will naturallyicken the Course of clandestine Exportation (in spite of all prohibitory Laws) and thereby raise the Market Price of English Wool in England. Such (as Sir Josiah Child

518 *Observations and Inferences. Ch.*

^d Ch. 48. has observed) is the [communicative] *Force*^d, *Sub*
§. 3. *Violence of Trade.*

15. This Affair has, it's true, been disguised Time to Time, by a certain Fiction, about the and marvellous Properties of *English* and *Irish* and much *false History* has been occasionally in order to vouch the same; but the whole plainly no more than what has here been made. And let it but once be contrived and effected, Wool of *England* and *Ireland* may take somewhat nearly their natural Price *at home*; and all illegalations of Wool will be more easily prevented. I am persuaded, all Injury to the Community of *Britain*, or particular Benefit to Foreigners, is of that Commodity.

16. The Price of *English* Wool then in ~~MUST~~ be suffered to *rise*; contrary to the avowitions of some, who lay greater Stress upon the Point, of having and keeping *cheap* that Comthan upon preventing the Exportation of it; weing that *Cheapness of Wool* brings more Benefitular Persons concerned therein, than the latter, portation of it, does Injury to the *Woolen Ex*
Trade. I beg Pardon of these Gentlemen for this Secret of theirs; but indeed, no Man of trusted me with it; nor was it told me by any living. But Mr. *Mun*, a Merchant^e, who wafter the *Restoration*, first blabbed it to the Publto him, the Company of *Eastland*^t *Merchants*, i
§. 4. *Note*. some few Years after, Dr. *Davenant*², when
Ch. 79. was engaged (for Hire, it has been said,) in the
§. 23. of the *Old East-India Company*; and now and
Ch. 124. later Years^b, one or other besides.

§. 5. 17. The Author of an elaborate *Essay, on t*
Ch. 126. *of the Decline of foreign Trade*, (begun in the Ye
§. 3. published An. 1744,) as an indisputable Proof,
Ch. 129. foreign Trade of the Kingdom had for some t
§. 3. declining, and was, then, under a sensible Dec
¹ *Essay, &c.* for Evidence, the following Symptoms¹.

p. 2. ^a *The many Petitions to Parliament, complain*

^c *Decay of the Woolen Manufactory.*

^e *The starving Condition of the Poor in the*
^f *Countries.*

Ch. 177. *Observations and Inferences.* 519

‘ The LOW PRICE OF WOOL.

‘ *The great Arrears of Rent, all over England, great Numbers of Farms thrown upon the Landlords Hands.*

‘ I appeal (*says he**) to every honest Man conversant in Trade, whether it does not decline, Year after Year ; more especially, OUR WOOLEN TRADE.’

He adds¹ (mistaking the *Law* as well as the *Facts*)¹ Page 15.

‘ ’Tis Felony in *England* to export Wool ; and yet, they who furnish *all the World* with Wool, have the least of the manufacturing of it *among themselves*.’

18. We must consider, that the chief Ground of this our Author’s wild Imagination, was, the then *low Price of Wool*. THAT was a Circumstance too notorious. But had he been at all acquainted with the History of the Woolen Trade of *England* ; and had he consulted the *Custom House Accounts** for the Times of which he was speaking, he would have known, that at the very Instant when Complaints ran highest on this Head, and the *Price of Wool* was at the very lowest Ebb, (I mean, *Ann. 1737-8.*) the *English Woolen Exportation Trade* exceeded all former Periods whatsoever^m.

^m See *Cb.*

19. Here therefore, by reason of a possible *Difference*, 176. §.40. it is proper to observe a *Distinction*, between the whole *Woolen Manufacture*, considered as making ONE GRAND PART of the inland and domestic Trade of the Kingdom, and the *Woolen Exportation Trade*, which is but a Part of that Manufacture. The latter, we are sure, had not declined in this Reign, but very much the contrary ; as concerning the former, we cannot say any thing positively :—BUT this we may say, that so far as there was Truth in the Complaints of the *Manufacturers*, of *Tenants*, of *Landlords*, of *Tradesmen* depending on *all these* ; they seem to have been owing, in a great measure, to

K k 4

that

* Though we are aware of what may be objected to *Custom-House Accounts* in this Case, *viz.* that the Entries there, of Woolen Goods, are not to be wholly depended upon, either as to the exact Quantities, or Value ; yet, whatever the Uncertainty is, in one respect or the other ; the same being common to every Year alike ; the *Custom-House Accounts* are therefore, what we may fairly argue from, as being the best, indeed, the only comparative Rule we have to judge by.

520 *Observations and Inferences.* Ch. 177.

that single Circumstance, *the very low Price of Wool*; which Circumstance alone, according to the Author of this *Essay on the Causes*, &c.^a and according to other Writers, (however particular Dealers may be pleased with the supposed or real Advantage thereof *to themselves*) is productive of much domestic Penury.

¶ §. 17. *20.* 'WOOL (says^a the Writer of this Essay) lying 'on Hand,' (and it is the same thing if the whole does not yield above a Third, or one Half of the usual Price; as if a Third, or one Half, is not sold) 'the Farmers push to 'sell at Market, but in vain, unless at an under Price. 'Many Sellers and few Buyers naturally fall the Market; and the Landlords pressing the Tenants for Rent, 'and threatening to seize, if Payments are not made, 'the Wool must be sold at *any Rate*, to raise the Money. The lower the *Product* sells, the *less Rent* the Farmer can give for Land; the worse the Markets are, the greater *Arrears of Rent* the Farmer runs into. 'This *must break him* in the End; and then the Farm is 'thrown into the Landlord's Hands, who, unwilling to 'fall the Rent, keeps it in the Management of Stewards 'and Bailiffs; whose Profit and Charges seldom make it 'pay the old Rent; but generally ends in mortgaging 'the Land, or selling.' Nor is this a Picture drawn at random. The Writer had the *Original* in his Eye; and many Gentlemen living, are able to attest the *Likeness*, from their own Experience, or Knowledge, between the Years 1720 and 1742; and all this, not thro' any Defect of the *English Navigation* and foreign Trade in general, and upon the whole; much less through any Defect of that particular Branch of the *English Woolen Exportation Trade*; but certainly as one principal Cause, *through a Failure in the Price of English Wool in England*.

21. We have seen (besides what this last quoted Author has so truly said on this Head) rueful Accounts of the bad Effects (to the *Landed Interest* especially) from that single Circumstance, *the low Price of Wool*, in the Reign of Car. II.^b Let us hear next, on the same Side of the Question, *The Complaints of a Lincolnshire Grasser*. A Tract wrote in 1726.: By a Person of Worth and Experience, well known and esteemed in his Country.

Ch. 177. *Observations and Inferences.* 521

‘ A natural Effect of increasing the Number of Sellers, *The Com-*
 ‘ in Proportion to the Number of Buyers *, is, making *plaint of a*
 ‘ the former submissive and complying to any Terms; *Lincoln-*
 ‘ the latter, for the same Reason, stiff and inflexible, in- *shire Gra-*
 ‘ solent in prescribing the Conditions of Sale. These *sier, p. 10.*
 ‘ Sort of Artifices are what the *Wool Buyers and Factors*
 ‘ are but too well versed in; and by these they play upon
 ‘ the Necessity of the *poor Grasier*, beat down the Price
 ‘ of his Wool, &c.’

‘ If the careful and industrious *Grasier*, disappointed at Page 11.
 ‘ Home, tries his Fortune at the Market, he is pretty
 ‘ sure, whether at *Norwich, Bury, Colchester, or Stur-*
 ‘ *bridge Fair*, to fall into the Hands of those vigilant Shar-
 ‘ pers, who look with an evil Eye upon any such inde-
 ‘ pendant Trader in *Wool*, and treat him with a scurvy
 ‘ Hand, as an Interloper in that Profit, they would
 ‘ wholly engross to themselves, and accordingly *combine*
 ‘ *together* to make him lose the Profit and the Charges of
 ‘ his Journey; and so to deter him (*and others by his Ex-*
 ‘ *ample*) from a second Attempt, by defeating his Success
 ‘ in the first.

‘ Too great a Plenty of Wool will always produce
 ‘ the very same Effect, as an over Proportion of the
 ‘ Number of Sellers to the Number of Buyers †. The Page 12.
 ‘ Number of Hands employed in the Woolen Manufa-
 ‘ ctures; the Exportation abroad, and Consumption at
 ‘ home, are all limited within certain Bounds. So long
 ‘ therefore as a moderate Proportion is preserved between
 ‘ the yearly Growth of Wool, and the yearly Vent or
 ‘ Consumption of it; so long it will continue a valuable
 ‘ Commodity, and make a quick and profitable Return
 ‘ in our domestic Markets. — But when the Quantity
 ‘ of Wool growing, or exposed to Sale, exceeds the
 ‘ Consumption, *the Overplus will hang heavily upon*
 ‘ *Hand, and be a Clog upon the Sale of all the rest.*

‘ As the *Landed* is the most considerable *national In-* Page 24.
 ‘ *terest*; so that of *Pasture Ground* is the most considera-
 ‘ ble of the *Landed*; and Wool the principal Article
 ‘ for the Support of *both*.

‘ The

* That is the very Effect of a *Monopoly*.

† The Case of a *Monopoly* is nothing different, in its Ef-
 fects, from either of these.

522 *Observations and Inferences.* Ch. 177.

- ‘ The RENT and TAXES yearly paid from *grazing*
 ‘ *Lands* entitle [the Owners and Occupants] in a more
 ‘ peculiar Manner to the Regard of the Public.
- Page 26. ‘ The Burdens and the Privileges of a Nation ought
 ‘ ever to be inseparable, and the one recompensed with
 ‘ the other ; and since so great a Charge both in RENT
 ‘ and TAXES lies upon the *Pasture Grounds*, and WOOL
 ‘ is the main Product the *Landed Interest* depends upon,
 ‘ ’tis *inexcusable*, to neglect and depress it. For,
- Page 33. ‘ Why must the Interest of the *Grazier*, the *Grower*
 Page 35. ‘ *of Wool*, be the *only Sufferer* ? In Matters of general
 ‘ Concern, it is the Part of wise Governors to overlook
 ‘ with a watchful Eye, and act with a steady Hand, and
 ‘ to take Care that ALL *Persons* employed in the natural
 ‘ or artificial Product of their Country, be set upon an
 ‘ equal and impartial Foot : So that *no one Body of Men*,
 ‘ NO ONE *Set of Dealers*, may interfere with, or bear
 ‘ hard upon another, or thrive to their Ruin or Pre-
 ‘ judice.
- Page 38. ‘ Since no Man can be entitled to keep a *Flock of Sheep*,
 ‘ or cut a *Pack of Wool*, without paying a valuable
 ‘ Consideration for the Pasture : It is plain, the *legal*
 ‘ *Inconveniences* of RENT and TAXES, must be provided
 ‘ for.
- Page 45. ‘ The WOOL of *Great Britain*, being our best and
 ‘ richest Product, requires out utmost Care.
- Page 55. ‘ To those who are apprized of Country Affairs, or
 ‘ in any Degree versed in them, it is plain, that the *Gra-*
 ‘ *siers* cannot at present supply their Necessities, and
 ‘ pay their RENTS *, without breaking up part of their
 ‘ Farms, and converting Pasture into Tillage. This
 ‘ must in a little Time, as the Practice grows general,
 ‘ increase the Quantity of Grain, beyond what was
 ‘ usually consumed at home, or transported abroad ; and
 ‘ consequently render *Corn* as great a *Drug as Wool* ; as
 ‘ unable to supply the RENTS of the *Farmer*, as the lat-
 ‘ ter is those of the *Grazier*. And if neither *Corn* nor
 ‘ *Wool*, bear any Price equivalent to the Value of Land ;
 ‘ the

* See (Chap. 171. N^o 5.) the Price of Wool in this Year, of our Author's writing (1726), and comparing it with the same, from 1735 to 1742, judge of the Case of the *Graziers*, in that whole Period.

Ch. 177. *Observations and Inferences.* 523

‘ the Consequences must be, that neither RENT nor
 ‘ TAXES can be paid, and the *Grafsers* and *Farmers*,
 ‘ the LANDLORDS and TENANTS, *with the several*
 ‘ TRADERS depending upon them, must be alike in Danger
 ‘ of turning Bankrupts.

‘ For when the *Grafsier* fails in the Payment of his
 ‘ RENT, the LANDLORD must in Course disappoint the
 ‘ TRADESMAN he deals with; the TRADESMEN, their
 ‘ *Wholesale Dealers* and MERCHANTS. By which
 ‘ Means, the Mischief circulates, and by an unhappy
 ‘ Chain of Consequences, one Deficiency extends itself
 ‘ to an unconceivable Length, and produces many. *The* Page 63.
 ‘ *private Streights and Necessities of the Wool Growers,*
 ‘ *in the Upsbat, affect the whole Body of the People, and*
 ‘ *lead to, and end in Publick Poverty.*

Thus far, the *Lincolnshire Grafsier*.

22. I know that there are Persons, who pretending to more refined Policies, and a deeper Insight into the *Nature and Consequences of Trade*, represent the whole Interest of the Kingdom, as consisting altogether in that Part of Trade which is called *foreign*; and, provided *that* is in a prosperous Way, would have it believed, that the whole Nation must thrive in course.

23. These *Gentlemen*, it is to be observed, are great Admirers of the Policies of the *Dutch*; whom they esteem the greatest Masters in the *Art of Trade*; and who possibly are so, for their own Situation and Circumstances, But it does not therefore follow, that they are a perfect Pattern for all the World besides.

24. Tho’ *London* and *Amsterdam* resemble each other; yet *Great Britain* and *Holland* are very unlike. The chief Stock of the latter, comparatively, is Money. It has not natural Product * sufficient for its own Consumption, nor Manufacture enough for its domestic Use, and foreign Trade. The former hath a *large Estate in Land*, producing Stores of many Kinds, in great Plenty,
 and

* ‘ The Inhabitants of *Holland* cannot be fed by its own *De Witt*.
 ‘ Product. Part 1.

‘ The eighth Part of the Inhabitants of *Holland* could Ch. 5.
 ‘ not be supplied with Necessaries out of its own Pro- Ch. 9.
 ‘ duct.’

524 *Observations and Inferences.* Ch. 177.

and Abundance of Manufactures, far beyond what it can use, or readily vend. So that *Great Britain* differs from *Holland*, much as a *Country Farmer* does from a *London Shopkeeper*. 'Tis the Profit of the latter, to attend upon his Business, to buy and sell to Advantage, the Wares he deals in. But for his own Consumption, the Use of his Household, he may in some Things indulge himself with what is best of the Kind; he may prefer others for being, upon the whole, cheapest, or for Variety, &c. while the *Country Farmer* must in many Instances content himself with the same Things, over and over again; and sometimes with those that are worse too, because they are *his own*, and at hand, and not altogether marketable. He must sell what is most vendible, and above all, take Care of the Balance, *i. e.* not to bring in more Superfluities, or even Necessaries, than his spare Produce and Labour will pay for; since that would soon bring him to Poverty.

25. Upon these Considerations, I am humbly of Opinion, that all the fine Notions, which some have entertain'd, for making *England*, what is called a FREE PORT, are quite chimerical, could the great Obstacle in their Way, the *Duties and Customs* (appropriated to the *Civil List*, the *National Debt*, &c.) be transferred elsewhere; as proposed by two Authors; the one of, *Serious Considerations on the several high Duties*, &c. the other, *An Essay on the Causes of the declining of Foreign Trade*, &c.

26. The Author of *Serious Considerations*, &c. to mend the matter, proposes a *single Duty* upon Houses, in lieu of all others; and what is that but a *Land Tax*, *i. e.* (what we understand thereby at present), a Tax upon Land and Houses*, instead of all others Taxes? and which Land Tax would be, for six Millions, 12 s. but, (supposing eight Millions to be raised) a Tax of 16 s. *per Pound*, in the usual Appellation of a Land Tax. But could eight, or even six Millions be paid in that shape? or, if so, could it be done, without affecting the
Trade

Serious Considerations, &c. p. 16, 17. * The Proposal is, 6000000 *l.* * on Houses in *England*; thus, ' Every House worth 200 *l.* a Year, or where the Inhabitant has a real Estate of 1000 *l.* a Year, should pay 100 *l.* and so in Proportion, down to 5 *l.* a Year, &c.

Ch. 177. *Observations and Inferences.* 525

Trade of Great Britain? The *Land*, 'tis true, might always be able to pay, 12, or perhaps 16 s. in the Pound, according to the present Rates of the Land and Land Tax; but that it would be always able to pay, in the first Instance, 8, or 6 Millions a Year, viz. four, or even three times as much as it now pays, at what we call 4 s. per Pound, is, I think, impossible; but if barely possible, what noble Customers, on those Terms, must the *Land-owners* be to their *Tradesmen*? This leads us to apprehend, (tho' it be true, as Mr. *Locke* has said, that Taxes, however contrived, will affect Land) that in Proportion as Land is affected, so will *Trade* be affected also: it being equally true, (which Sir *Josiah Child* has said) that *Land and Trade are Twins, and must wax and wane together.*

27. And therefore, tho' some Taxes, as less grievous, are more eligible than others; yet, in general, it may be said, that those which are most equal, i. e. most universal, are the most easy. By equal Pressure, all Burdens sit lightest; consequently, greater Taxes may be paid from a Plurality of Articles, than from a single one; and by the whole Community, than by any select Body of Men.

' There is no better Way ^m (says Mr. *De Witt*) to ^m *De Witt*,
' bear a great Burden, but with as many Helpers as can Chap. 24.
' be procured. And it cannot be denied, but that the
' most Supporters are procured, by charging *all Goods*
' with some Impost, that are usually worn or consumed
' by the People, as they are Men and Women.'

28. Nor has that Circumstance, of being somewhat more expensive in the Management and Collection, all the doleful Effects, which are sometimes represented, and too generally imagined; since, according to Sir *William Petty*, ' If the Money, or other Effect, levied ^m *Polit.*
' from the People, by way of Tax, were destroyed and *Aritbm.*
' annihilated, or exported out of the Kingdom, such Page 35.
' *Levies only* would diminish the Commonwealth.

' No Part of *Europe* hath paid so much, by way of Page 39.
' Tax and Contribution, as *Holland* and *Zealand*, for
' this last hundred Years; and yet no Country hath in
' the same Time, increased their Wealth comparatively
' to them. Their Policy has been, to tax Meats and
' Drinks most heavily of all.'

29. In

526 *Observations and Inferences. Ch. 177.*

29. In like manner, when it suits their Interest, in other Views, the *Master CLOTHIERS, &c. of England* can bring Arguments, to induce us to believe, that making the *Necessaries of Life* dear, is no real Obstacle to the *Woolen Manufacture* particularly, in *England*. Thus
- Ch. 138. says one of them °. ‘The *Dutch* don’t regard the
 - §. 3, 4, 6. ‘Dearness of Provisions; well knowing that Hunger and Cold will make People work, in order to eat, &c.
 - ‘—*Flanders* and *Hamburgh* pursue the same Measures, for suppressing Idleness and Beggary.—*Dutch Policy* lades all the *Necessaries of Life*, to make the Poor diligent and sober.—Dearness of Provisions obliges the
 - Ch. 138. Poor to work more, and debauch less.—A Weaver
 - §. 2, 10. ‘and his Family may subsist as well as the Poor do in many Countries in *England*, by only working one half of his Time. A constant Labourer in Husbandry don’t earn above half the Money as a Weaver.—Putting our Manufacturers under a Necessity of working constantly, would perhaps, in the *Woolen Trade*, amount to the same Thing as an Addition of one Third * more Hands.
 - Ch. 67. 30. On the other Hand, it’s true, Mr. *Collins* says °,
 - §. 10. ‘As to that Straw, that unless Provisions are dear, the People will be lazy; ’tis granted, Necessity begets Industry; yet notwithstanding, if some will be idle, it follows not, that all, or the major Part will be so.’
 - 31. In short, the Argument about Dearness, or Cheapness of Provisions, in regard to the *manufacturing Interest*, is, with Writers on that Subject, in the Nature of a Slipper; which they can put on, or off; as it best suits their Purpose. And though, in the main, I hold with Mr. *Collins* ° on this Head; yet I think that Matter is not altogether what occasionally it has been represented, either Way. And therefore, though Taxes should not be unnecessarily multiplied upon either Rich or Poor; yet where the Necessity is urgent and unavoidable,

* Is not this an Argument, that, in the Opinion of this Writer (who seems to have been very conversant in the Business) the People employed in the *Woolen Manufacture*, did not, upon an Average, work more than two Thirds of their whole Time; consequently, did not make forty working Weeks in a Year? (See Ch. 145. §. 3. Note.)

Ch. 177. *Observations and Inferences.* 527

able, and if they are not out of Proportion, they may be levied promiscuously, without offering such Violence to the Trade and Manufactures of the Kingdom, as has been represented, and particularly by the two Writers before-mentioned, viz. the Author of *Serious Considerations*, &c. and of *The Essay on the Causes of the Decline of foreign Trade*, &c. Both which Writers do suppose, by means of the present Taxes, i. e. *Duties and Customs*, a fictitious Incumbrance on Trade and Manufacture, equal (says one) to 50, (the other) to 51 *per Cent.* And yet they cannot help owning respectively, that ALL NATIONS have their *Taxes*, in some Shape. — But they are both of Opinion, that the Taxes of this Kingdom may be exchanged for others, less burthenfome to the Nation in general, and less injurious to Manufacture and Trade in particular. And tho' some Taxes might possibly be exchanged to Advantage, yet in the main, I think these and some other Writers on the same Head, may be compared to Persons in Pain, who are apt to wish the same, though known to be incurable, yet removed elsewhere; vainly imagining that it would be more tolerable in some other Part than that, for the present, affected.

32. I do not propose to examine minutely the several Opinions and Policies contained in these two Tracts: But having already given my Reasons, why I think the Scheme, of a *single Duty upon Houses*, (as proposed by the celebrated Author of *Serious Considerations*, &c.) in lieu of all other Taxes, would not answer the Purposes of Trade: So I shall here, in few Words, shew why I think the Author of *The Essay on the Causes of the Decline of foreign Trade*, &c. is mistaken in some of his Calculations. §. 26.

33. This Writer, it is to be noted, having taken it for granted that his Computations are just, concludes a Decay, of Trade in general, but more particularly, of the *Woolen Exportation Trade*. Then, as a special Proof of the Truth, both of his general Computations, and of his particular Conclusion, he urges (what was true) the LOW PRICE OF WOOL, Complaints, of *Manufacturers*, of *Tenants*, of *Landlords*. But we have seen, by an undeniable Testimony, (the *Custom-House* Accounts) Ch. 171. the *Woolen Exportation Trade* was, at this very Time, No 5. actually greater than in any former Period. Now, it being

528 *Observations and Inferences.* Ch. 177.

being thus evident, beyond Contradiction, that the Author of this *Essay* was so far deceived in his general Conclusion, as it related to the *Woolen Exportation Trade in particular*, 'tis the more probable, that he might be mistaken, in regard to our whole foreign Trade in general; and that, notwithstanding the Plausibility of his Arguments, and his supposed Demonstration by Figures, a great Part of his imagin'd fictitious Expence on the *Woolen Manufacture*, is indeed but a Fiction of his own Imagination. And, if, as on the Part of the CLOTHIERS, it has been suggested^v, *Dearness of Provisions* is no real Disadvantage to that Manufacture; why then, *Cheapness of WOOL* is not so indispensably necessary, in that respect, as has been alledged occasionally^z. And I think it may be said, for certain, that it is not for the general Good of the Kingdom, to use any indirect Means, in order to depress the PRICE OF WOOL *below its natural Value*.

^v §. 29.

^z See §. 16.

^v Ch. 141.
§. 15.

34. Mr. WEBBER has laid it down for a Rule^v, 'That the Price of Wool in *England*, has constantly rose and fallen, regularly, in Proportion to the Exports of our manufactured Goods.' And this is both a current Notion, and what, under a due Regulation of Things, might ordinarily be expected, in some Degree, though not altogether so, as Persons may be apt to imagine. But as matters are, we have seen just the contrary, in the two most trying Instances, of these latter Years, the Time of the Plague at *Marseilles*^z; and in the Year 1737-8^a. In the first, Wool did not rise in Price, but rather fell. In the latter, it was at the lowest Ebb that had been known.

^z Ch. 174.

^a Ch. 176.
P. 8.

35. But, whereas the *Woolen Exportation Trade*, in 1737-8, was so considerably great as it was, and the Price of Wool, at the same time, so much below its usual Standard: of this, some, I doubt not, will be ready to say, that *the Thing commends itself*; as being a Proof, that those large Exportations of the *Manufacture*, were a Consequence of the Cheapness of the *Material*; and that, consequently, *Cheapness of Wool* is a public Benefit.

36. This (it may be consider'd) is but a Problem; while, on the other hand, it is quite certain, that the LOW PRICE OF WOOL, at this Time, did affect the TENANTS and LANDLORDS, and their dependant TRADES-

Ch. 177. *Observations and Inferences.* 529

TRADESMEN, in the very manner described by the Author of the *Complaints of a Lincolnshire Grafter*, and by the Author of the *Essay on the Causes of the Decline of foreign Trade*, &c. And, possibly, it might also affect the labouring Manufacturers (as a Body of Men, Women, and Children) in their Employment and Wages, altho' the Woolen Exports were so considerably great, and perhaps the greater, by reason of the then *low Price of Wool*. §. 21: §. 20:

37. This at least we are certain of, that Complaints, from this Class of People, never did run higher, than at the very Time, of which we are speaking. And, it is to be considered, that the Interest of the Community, in respect of WOOL, is threefold, taking in LAND, LABOUR, and TRAFFIC. *Foreign Trade* is but a Part* of the Benefit resulting from WOOL; and the least Part. It

* It has been already^d observed, that there is necessarily^d a Distinction to be made between the *whole Woolen Manufacture*, and that Part of it, the *Exportation Trade for Woolen Goods*. But forasmuch as the Generality of Persons are apt, 1st, to represent to themselves what vast Numbers do subsist by that Manufacture, in its utmost Extent and Consequences; and thence to transfer their Thoughts chiefly, if not solely, to that single Branch of it, our *foreign Trade for Woolens*, (which is but a crude and partial Idea) it may not therefore be improper to offer some short Hints, towards analysing more perfectly this Subject. §. 19:

Mr. King, and Dr. Davenant, towards the Close of the last Century, computed this Matter thus, viz. the *Wool of England* at £ 2000000 *per Ann.*; the Labour of manufacturing it, at £ 6000000 more; in the whole, £ 8000000; of which there was exported, upon an Average, £ 2000000. And tho' the whole Quantities may have been since, increased; yet the Proportions are probably much the same. Consequently, we may consider, 1st, the WOOL, as affording annually, *v. g.* *three Millions* towards the Rents of *England*; and those *three Millions* to be issued many times over and over again, for Labour and Produce, within the Circle of a Year; in short, employing many Hands, and feeding yet more Mouths. Next, we are to consider the Money earned in working up this Wool; which, supposing it at three times the prime Cost, is *nine Millions more*; which is another and still larger Source of Employment and Maintenance; in a word, of *Income and Expence*, to the People

530 *Observations and Inferences.* Ch. 177.

It was heretofore accounted but a *fourth* Part, 2 Millions, in eight; and tho' the Woolen Exports from *England*, are now, ordinarily, by the Increase of Trade, upwards of 3 Millions yearly, yet, by a proportionable Increase of the People, and of the Sheep of the Kingdom; we may suppose that the Quantity of Wool grown, and of Woolen Manufacture consumed in the Kingdom, is

• Ch. 139.
§. 7. increased also*. And if, by reason of other Manufactures, (as Silk, &c.) the domestic Consumption of Woolens is not increased altogether in the same Proportion with our Woolen Exportations; yet nevertheless, we must believe, it is increased. Consequently, the major Part of the Employment and Wages of the Woolen Manufacturers depends upon their *Home Customers*, the *Inland Trade* of the Kingdom, viz. *Tenants, Landlords*, and their dependant *Tradesmen*, and *Labourers*. And if THESE HOME CUSTOMERS are any way streightened in their *Incomes*, by receiving but 12 or 13 s. where they had been used to receive 20 s. or a Guinea; they, not having the same Money coming to them, must
abridge

People of *England*; and of *Supplies*, for the Support of its Government; and which, in its several Undulations, of a Year, pays for the Fruits and Produce of the Kingdom, and for imported Merchandise, to an immense Value, difficult to be conceived; much more, to be particularly described or expressed. Out of this Wool, Value *three Millions*, and this *Labour*, to the Amount of *nine Millions* more; in the whole TWELVE MILLIONS, we are to suppose $\frac{1}{4}$, viz. *nine Millions* consumed annually in Raiment, by *our own People*; instead of sending out *so much* Money, which otherwise they necessarily *must* do (if they had it) for Apparel, of foreign *Materials*, and foreign *Manufacture*. And *lastly*, we are to reckon our Woolen Manufactures exported annually, at *three Millions* a Year, upon an Average; which *three Millions* being so much in the general Balance of our *whole foreign Trade*, is an Article of huge Importance. *Nevertheless*, it is but one Article; and but a small one, comparatively, i. e. in respect of the *whole Benefit arising to the Community, from the Wool, and from the whole WOOLEN MANUFACTURE OF ENGLAND*, agreeably to what *The British Merchant* hath laid down, touching the great Disproportion there is between *all foreign Markets*, and *our own*; whence he justly concludes, that the *latter* ought to be regarded principally.

h. 178. *Observations and Inferences.* 531

idge their *Expences*, some way or another; and probably in Apparel, as much as in any other Article, nay, probably, more; the Cravings of Nature for Meat and Drink; the Appetite of Hunger and Thirst, being most tant and urgent, will be satisfied in the first Place: I therefore, all Deficiency of Purse, with the Multi-e, the far greater Part of the People, will fall heaviest on the Article of *new Cloaths*.

38. If *East India* Silks and Callicoes, before their be- prohibited (1701); and if Callicoes, printed in gland, before the Prohibition (1720) affected consider- y the *Inland Consumption* of *Woolen*, and other *Home anufactures*, by furnishing the Nation (as certainly y did^f) with Garments, of which the Materials and *See* Manufacture both, were foreign, instead of what Ch. 87. s produced, and wrought; or if not produced, yet *P. S. 14.* ought at home: Then, in like manner, whatever *Note.* ives (as a *Low Price for Wool must do*) any consider- Ch. 117. e Part of the Nation, to any considerable Degree, §. 2—6, buying *new Garments* (and, in lieu thereof, puts them 7, 8, 9, 10, 15. for a Necessity of patching and wearing longer their ones) must proportionably affect the *Manufactures*, *Home Consumption*, or *Inland Trade of the Kingdom*.

C H A P. CLXXVIII.

Observations and Inferences.

WE are amply inform'd, from several of the foregoing Chapters, that *prohibiting absolutely*, not been a Means of *preventing totally the Exporta- of Wool*. Nor does that *Policy* appear to have been Expedient, for checking and limiting *such Exportation*, ferable to, or even comparable with the more an- ant Policy (which had been continued for three Cen- ies at least, and through the whole Reign of *Queen zabeth*) of *charging a Duty on Wool exported*. Nei- r does there appear any Reason, from History, or urther, to believe that even *preventing totally the Ex- ation of Wool*, in Consequence of *prohibitory Laws*,

merely (was that practicable) is in any other Regard, greatly conducive to promote the *English Woolen Exportation Trade*, than as such Prevention would be a Means to strengthen the *Monopoly* against the *Grower*, and, as such, to fix the Wool of *Great Britain* and *Ireland* at one, dead, low Price, not to be raised by any Flow of foreign Trade whatsoever; nor even much, by a general Advance of that Commodity, WOOL, in all other Parts of the World besides; except, as a Rot in the Kingdom might lessen the whole Quantity, or as the very low Price thereof might induce the ploughing up of Sheep Walks, till the *Graser*, having distressed the *Farmer*, by overstocking the Kingdom with Grain, should return from Tillage to his wonted Course, of depasturing his Lands with Sheep.

2. That a low Price for WOOL, thus obtained, and continued, would be somewhat propitious, as well as highly agreeable to certain Persons concerned in the *Woolen Exportation Trade*, will not be denied. But that this is Consideration sufficient to justify a *Monopoly* against the *Grower*, and the consequent Injuries to the *whole Landed Interest and its Dependents*, is what, in my private Judgment, I cannot admit.

3. Was it indeed true (which has been said, though most falsely) that, by confining certainly the Wool of *Great Britain* and *Ireland*, a *Monopoly*, in foreign Markets, for *Woolen Goods*, could be acquired (like that of the *Dutch*, for their Spices^c) the Plea in this Case would be valid; as that would occasion naturally such a Strife among the *English* Manufacturers, for *English* Wool, as would tend to keep up the Price of it, in some tolerable Degree. But, as the Case is, this *Monopoly* against the *Grower*, is, taking from him a Part of his Property, and giving it to a third Person, for *nothing*.

4. The *Purchasers* will, no doubt, tell us, that they are always ready to give the *Grower*, as much as the *Trade* will afford^b, for his *Wool*; and if he suffers any Thing, by this Confinement to one Market; 'tis in order to a common Benefit, by Trade. — But is it not the Way of Mankind, to buy, ALWAYS, as cheap as they can? Is it not an Advantage to any Class of Men to have a *Monopoly* in their Favour? And are not all Men

^c Ch. 96.

^b 4. Note.

Ch. 114.

§. 11.

Ch. 131.

§. 9.

Ch. 132.

§. 2.

^b See

Ch. 171.

Nº 8.

Ch. 178. *Observations and Inferences.* 533

Men, in Trade especially, disposed to take all Advantages, and to make the most of them?

5. Tho' Trade is twofold, foreign, and domestic, and both important; yet *some Merchants* would make all dependant upon the former.--But the **BRITISH MERCHANT** (whom I respect above all other *British Writers on Trade*) gives the Preference, beyond Comparison, to the *home Trade*¹, and *home Consumption* of native Produce and Manufacture. And certain it is, that in *foreign Trade*, the *Balance* is of much more Consequence than the *Quantity*; whereas in *home Trade*, the *Quantity* is every thing. But there have not been wanting *Merchants*, who have argued for *Measures* respecting the *Quantity*, in *foreign Trade*, without regard to the *Balance*; in which, though they might judge it well enough for *themselves*, yet were they far from consulting the *Good of their Country*. Ch. 100. §. 10.

6. This explains how a Merchant may thrive by the Impoverishment of his Country²; namely, by promoting *foreign*, at the Expence of the *Inland Trade* of the Kingdom. A Merchant may gain equally by *Imports*, as by *Exports*; and perhaps more by the former, than by the latter; whereas, to the *Nation*, a small Matter gained in the *Balance of foreign Trade*, is of much more Consequence, than a large Increase in the *Quantity*, without that *Balance*. It is not the same Thing to *Merchants*. In *foreign Trade*, it is the Interest of the Public, to increase *Exports*, and, as much as may be, to decrease the *Imports*. But the latter has always been a growing Part of the *Merchants Business*. Ch. 98. §. 1. Ch. 103. §. 2.

7. In the *English Exports*, that of *Woolen Manufacture*, has been, for some Centuries¹, and continues to be a principal Article; nearly equal to all other Exports besides. As such, it is undoubtedly a most important Branch of *foreign Trade*, to be cherished by all due Means whatsoever. But that is no Reason why undue, ineffectual *Measures*, should be persisted in, after long Experience of their Inefficacy, and Inutility; especially, if Alternatives, more promising, can be pointed out. Ch. 177. §. 1.

8. The chief Policy, by which the *English* have steered, from the *Restoration* to this Day, in regard to the *Woolen Trade*, has been, by absolutely prohibiting the *Exportation of Wool*, under high Penalties. These Penalties have been exchanged, enforced, repeated, for

534 *Observations and Inferences*

fourſcore Years ſucceſſively; and in the
m Ch. 142. very laſt Act^m, on that Head, it ſtands
P. 8. they have all availed very little, toward
Runnage of Wool; for that the Exportation
 ſtill *notoriously continued*.

9. But it may not therefore be ſaid,
 have had *no Effect*; for they have had a
 they have made, and kept *low*, the Price.
 And I think it may be allowed, (as Dr.
m Ch. 45. 1664ⁿ, and the *Eastland Merchants*,
§. 1, 2. Dr. *Davenant*, in 1696-7^p) that Cheap-
Note. *terial* is ſome Advantage to the *Exporter*
o Ch. 73. *ſure*;—But, the Miſfortune is, that it
§. 4. Advantage; and nothing, which is part
v Ch. 79. *fect*. It probably *helps* the *foreign Trade*.
§. 23. *burts* the *Home Conſumption*; which is
 a good Authority, the BRITISH MERCHANTS
9 Ch. 100. *more conſiderable Market*^q.

10. CHEAPNESS of *Engliſh Wool* is
 certain natural Effect of *prohibiting abſolu-*
tation thereof, is, 'tis true, in the nature
 to the *Exporters of Woolen Manufacture*;
 to be conſidered, that it is alſo a *Premium*
ters of RAW WOOL. Be it ſo, ſay ſome
Merchants, in their Hearts; (and ſome
 to that Effect, in almoſt ſo many Words
 WE are Gainers; and that is true.—BUT
 LANDED INTEREST, the Bulk of the
 all the while? It ſhould ſeem ſo, from
 PRICE OF WOOL, and the conſequent
 TENANTS and LANDLORDS, and the
 the *poor labouring Part* of MANUFACTURE
 ſince the remarkable Year, of *Woolen Exportation*.

11. And indeed, it is hardly poſſible
 otherwiſe; ſince, if there is any Reliance
 the beſt Hiſtory in general, both ancient
 any Credit to be given to the moſt autho-
 in particular, *Engliſh*, or *Foreign*; conſider
 the Wool of *England*, nay, and of *Ireland*.
 particular Aptitude to increaſe the *Engliſh*
tation Trade, except as it is a means to
Wool ſo much cheaper in *England*. For
 People of *England* have been taught to

Ch. 178. *Observations and Inferences.* 535.

vance in the Price of *English Wool*, from an Increase of the *Woolen Exports*; yet Experience, in the Time of the Plague at *Marseilles*¹, and of the much larger *Woolen Exports*, *Ann. 1737-8*², sufficiently evince the contrary. Nor can any *Increase of Woolen Exports*, which has its Foundation ONLY in *Cheapness of English Wool in England*, ever occasion any Advance in the Price of that Commodity, as a Consequence of *such Increase*; because that would be foregoing the *Cause itself*, from which the *Consequence* is to be derived.

12. And this shews, what might be expected from a REGISTRY OF WOOL, in Requital for the Trouble and Expence that would necessarily attend it. A *Registry* duly conducted in *Great Britain and Ireland* both, would prevent the Exportation of Wool; and, under all Events, would keep low the Price of it; insomuch that it should not rise much, from any exterior Cause whatsoever; no not from an Advance, however great, in the Price of other Wools in foreign Markets. The Price of *English Wool in England*, being thus fixed low, it might be of service to some particular Persons concerned in *foreign Trade*. — But the *Landed Interest* would be distressed, and consequently the MANUFACTURERS for *home Use*, (who are the far greater Number) the *home Market* (which is by much the most considerable) would be hurt by it.

13. It has been said³, that *English Wool in England* has not (from the *Restoration*) been sold according to its Worth, i. e. not at a Market Price, according to the Markets of the World at large, for all *other Wools*; and that the Reason thereof plainly is, a MONOPOLY in this Case, occasioned by the present prohibitory Laws; to which is owing the RUNNAGE OF WOOL. Let us see then what is the Difference, which occasions *this Runnage*; for this is more especially to be regarded; because that *Difference* is the *Temptation*; which *Temptation* is particularly to be watched, if we would prevent so pernicious a Practice as, undoubtedly, the *Runnage of Wool* is, considered in all its Consequences, and chiefly as it is a Counter-part to much other Smuggling; a Branch of that iniquitous inveterate Practice, so injurious upon the whole, to the Revenue, and to the fair Trader.

536 *Observations and Inferences. Ch. 178.*

14. The Author of *Observations on British Wool, &c.* (1739) tells us, that *English Wool*, which in *England* sold for 6 *d.* a Pound, was sold in *France* for 10 *d.* and 10 *d.* $\frac{1}{2}$; which was 70, and 75 *per Cent.* Difference. The Author of *The Essay on the Causes of the Decline of foreign Trade, &c.* makes the Difference between the Price of *English Wool* in *England*, and of the same in foreign Parts, to be, upon a Medium, 50 *per Cent.*; and both these Accounts, at different Times, may be true; as also that of a third Writer¹, who makes the Difference 60 *per Cent.* For, with regard to the first of these, we are to consider the low Price of Wool, not only in *England*, but of all Wool in *Europe* and the World at large, about the Years 1739² and 1740. And therefore 'tis no wonder that the Difference at that Time, would be more than when Wool is generally dearer.

¹ Intitled, *The Schemer's Scrutiny*, printed 1746. p. 35-40.
² Ch. 154. §. 2, 4.
Note.

15. For, the Exportation of Wool from *Britain* and *Ireland*, being illegal and penal, nothing but the Temptation, of *Profit*, can be supposed to induce the clandestine Traders to risk the Dangers. But, admitting the Difference, in 1739, to have been 4 *d.* or 4 *d.* $\frac{1}{2}$ *per Pound*; yet was not all that to be placed to the *Profit* of the clandestine Trader, as such; there must be a Deduction, for Freight, and intermediate Brokage, after its having crossed the Channel; and therefore we cannot well assign much more than 3 *d.* a Pound, or, at the most, 60 *per Cent.* for the *Owlers* Profit; and though the Temptation of 3 *d.* or 3 *d.* $\frac{1}{2}$ a Pound, is little, in respect of the Penalties, yet is 50, or 60 *per Cent.* large, in regard to the Capital employed in that illicit Trade.

16. And hence it is to be concluded, 1st, that 10 *d.* $\frac{1}{2}$ a Pound, was the most that would be given in *France* for *English Wool*, about the Year 1739. 2dly, The Inducement to Runnage, for the Difference of about 3 *d.* a Pound, being as small as can well be imagined; it is therefore to be supposed, the *French* had (for the very Reason of the Terms being so little advantageous to the clandestine Exporters) rather less, than more, of *English* and *Irish Wool*, in this cheap Season, than at some other Times, when Wool is generally dearer. 3dly, If the *French* Manufacturers would not have paid so great a Difference at this Time, as 70 *per Cent.* they could not have had any *English Wool* at all; and,

4thly,

Ch. 178. *Observations and Inferences.* 537

4thly, By the same Rule that they got a lesser Quantity, at that Price, they might have had greater Quantities, at a greater Price; and if a greater Price, in the common Course of Trade, could by them have been afforded at that Time, they would not have failed to have given it, for the sake of compassing a greater Quantity. For I suppose it will be thought no extravagant Compliment to *English* and *Irish* Wool, to say that the *French*, and other Foreigners, always get as much of it as conveniently they can; and the *Rule of Conveniency in which Case is, the Price*; they will always give a full Market Price for it. They will give therefore, comparatively, for *English* and *Irish* Wool, what they will give for *Spanish*, *Portuguese*, *Polish*, *German*, and many other Wools; and they will give NO MORE. And whatever therefore is the Difference between the Price of *English* Wools in *England*, and of the same in *France*, or at other foreign Markets; that, abating for what might be accounted of, for Freight and Factorage, (in a legal open Trade) is the Difference between the forced, artificial, current Price, at home, and its real natural Value, was that Monopoly (occasioned by the Prohibition) entirely removed; and in this Difference altogether consists the Temptation* to the Runnage of Wool; and which upon a Medium, there is Reason to think, is 50, or at the most, 60 per Cent.

17. We are told indeed another Story, concerning extraordinary Advantages to be made of *English* and *Irish* Wool in *France*, and other Parts, by mixing one Third, at the most, of *English* or *Irish*, with two Thirds, at the least, of foreign Wools; and we are told of the extraordinary Prices to be afforded, consequently, by Foreigners (the *French* more particularly) for *English*, and *Irish* Wools. But this I take to be a very gross Imposition. Those who give this Account, are careful to couch it under general Expressions, and in very ambiguous Terms; as if conscious of the Fallacy they were venting; and this, no doubt, was the Case, at the first Invention of this Fable.

18. Not but that it is credible enough, that the *French* particularly mix *British* and *Irish*, with *French*, or other Wools;

* 'In Matters of Trade the Temptation is, Profit.'

Schemer's Scrutiny, 1746. p. 33.

538 *Observations and Inferences.* Ch. 178.

Wools; because that Method of Woolen Manufacture appears to be, or at least to have been * the general Practice throughout the Kingdom of *France*. And what is that their Method, or Practice, of mixing Wools, in Manufacture? 'Tis, for the most part, making the Warp or Chain, of one Sort of Yarn; the Woof or Shoot, of another; and I have been told, (and I find the same in some printed Accounts of Manufacturers) that the Warp and Woof, are nearly at least, equal Quantities; especially, where the Qualities of each are quite, or nearly equal. But what are the Proportions, in a mixed Work, of worsted Chain, and woolen Shoot, (a Composition much practised in *England*², as well as in *France*) I know not. Only this I recollect, that, at *Amiens* in *France*, (which seems, from the *Dictionnaire Universel*³, to be the Place of that Kingdom, where *British* and *Irish* Wool is most used) the Mixture is, half, foreign, half, Wools of the Country²; that is, I suppose, as in other Parts of *France*, and in many Species of *English* Goods, made in several Parts of *England*, the Chain, of one Sort of Yarn or Worsted, the Shoot, of another.

* See the
Diction.
Universel.
Ch. 151--
166.

² Ch. 140.
§. 4-

³ Ch. 157.
§. 9.

² Ch. 157.
§. 3.

19. But, admitting this Mixture, or any other that shall be pitched upon, either in the Comb, or Cards, or Warp, or Woof, (and all Mixture must be performed one of these Ways; nor is there any Mixture of any kind practised in *France*, the like whereof is not also in *England*.) I deny, that any thing considerably more, is, or can be given for *English*, or *Irish* Wools, merely for the sake of such Mixture. In the Nature of Things it is impossible, that a lesser or equal Quantity of better Wool can be so mixed with a greater, or equal Quantity of Wool that is worse; but that the worse shall take as much from the better, as the better can give to the worse.

20. If, for Example, in the same Pile, one Third of good Wool is mixed with two Thirds of Wool, 30 *per Cent.* worse; it cannot be but that such Pile shall be intrinsically worse, by 20 *per Cent.* than if it had been all of the better Wool. In like manner, the Cloth, or Stuff from such a Composition, will be at least 20 *per Cent.* worse than Cloth or Stuff from all the better Wool; and consequently must be sold for 20 *per Cent.* less, admitting

Ch. 178. *Observations and Inferences.* 539

mitting equal Skill and Labour. Consequently nothing can be gained from such Work (of mixed Wools) above common Profit, more than to defray the Expence of the Labour bestowed upon the Whole, and the prime Cost of each Part of the Materials.

21. For tho' Mixture and Sophistication is much practised in many Articles of Trade, and, no doubt, with some Advantage; yet, besides that the pure and unsophisticated is readily distinguished, by professed Judges and Dealers; and always sold accordingly, at a very different Price; yet this sort of *Legerdemain* seems to be less practicable on Wool, than upon many other Commodities, such as, Liquors, or Metals when reduced to a State of Fluidity; in which, by Transfusion, a small Quantity in Proportion, of some Ingredients, shall so far predominate over a large Mass of others, as to give them very different Qualities, and another Appearance.

22. In a Pile of Wool, there may be Artifice used; it may be unfairly laid down, and what they call, *faced*, i. e. with the best in View, and the worst out of Sight. In Tentering and Stretching, Fulling, Dying, Pressing, Folding Cloths or Stuffs, there may be Art, and even Fraud: But in the combing, carding, spinning, and weaving Part, Wool with Wool, is not capable of being used after the manner of *Gilding*, and *Finiere*, in carved, and cabinet Work, or as Varnish, to Paint. Different Wools are not, to each other, (like Copper and Lapis Calaminaris) productive of a third Species of Matter. Wool has no mercurial Qualities; there is nothing like the Arts of Chemistry, attending its Fabrication; nothing upon the Comb or Cards, in the Wheel or Loom, but a mere *juxta-Position* of the Parts; and the Qualities of every Hair of Wool, in every Thread of Yarn or Worsted; and of every Thread of Yarn or Worsted, in every Piece of Cloth or Stuff, are confined within the Limits of their own proper Surface; that is, they will occupy a Space in each, in proportion to the Share they bear in the whole, and according to their Quality, and the Space they fill; so will be the Quality of the Yarn or Worsted, or Cloth or Stuff; which Quality is sensible to the Eye, and to the Touch or Handling; and in like manner, as they appear to the one, and feel to the other; just so the Mind passes a Judgment upon them.

23. A

23. A further Argument against the vulgar Notion, of the *French* particularly being able to give excessive Prices for *British* and *Irish* Wools, for the Benefit of *mixing*, may be gathered from this single Circumstance, *viz.* In some Instances, we are informed, the *French* make use of *these Wools alone*, working them, *singly*, into Stockings^a, Serge, &c. Now it must be allowed, that in working up *these Wools, singly*; one Nation or People, *ceteris paribus*, can afford no more for them than another; and that the *French*, by such Work, can have only the single Benefit of their Labour; which Labour (upon that other Supposition, of much larger possible Advantage by mixing those Wools) would be greatly misapplied, and instead of Gain, a considerable Loss to them. But this, in a free Way of thinking, would not readily be suspected of the *French*, above all others; who are generally thought to be the last People in *Europe*, to stand in their own Light.

24. And though the Notion has been so long and often repeated, that it is now^b, said to be *agreed on all Hands*, yet surely it cannot be true, that *preventing the Exportation of one Pack of Wool from Great Britain and Ireland, is procuring a Market for the Manufacture of three Packs*, to be sent from the one Place, or the other. Because, was that the Case; though the *French* could afford to give largely for such Wool; insomuch that it would be morally impossible to prevent their getting it, in a greater or lesser Quantity; yet, as it would be worth attempting continually, to prevent them as much as possible; and as every Approach towards such Prevention, must have some good Effect upon the Trade of *England*, which would be perceptible in the advanced Price of Wool: So every Incident, whereby there should be Reason to believe that the usual Exportation of Wool was more than ordinarily obstructed; and every Flow of foreign Trade, shewing itself in much larger Exportations than common, of Woolen Manufacture (and therefore implying less *Runnage of the Material*) would verify this common received Opinion, by a *real Advance* in the Price of *English Wool* in *England*. In this manner the Bulk of the People of *England* have been taught to expect, and used to reason. The Time of the Plague at *Marseilles* has been quoted, as a special Example to this

^a Ch. 153.

§. 10.

Ch. 157.

§. 10.

^b *Essay on the Inequality of our present Taxes*, 1746. p. 80.

Ch. 178. *Observations and Inferences.* 541

this general Rule; it has properly enough been pitched upon as a *Criterion*, or undeniable Test in this Case. But even that, and a yet stronger Instance, in one Regard (the Quantity of Woollens exported) viz. the Year 1737-8^c, are standing Monuments to the contrary; ^c Ch. 176. they are a *Proof*, of the *internal Kind* (which no Reasoning can evade) that all this fine Theory, about the Advantages to be made abroad, from *British* and *Irish* Wools, merely by *mixing*; and concerning the extraordinary Price which can *therefore* be afforded for it by Foreigners, has not the least Shadow of Truth in it.

25. 'Tis a Part of the foregoing Hypothesis, of the French particularly, being able to give so largely for British and Irish Wool, for the Benefit of mixing it with their own, that the latter, without such Mixture, is *useless*. And here, if we are to believe the Descriptions given by some Writers, *French Wool*, *unmixed*, or even *mixed*, is not fit for any Use at all. But it must be ^a Ch. 41. owned, that the Sense, in which *French Wool*, without ^{§. 4.} *British* or *Irish*, has been represented as *useless*; and the ^c Ch. 32. Peculiarity of *British* and *Irish* Wools, towards making ^{§. 3.} both the *French*, and all other foreign Wool, *useful*, has ^{Ch. 131.} been restricted and qualified by different Writers; but in ^{§. 5.} very different Ways, as follows: ^{Ch. 112.}

The Wools of *Spain* ^a will not sort in Work with ^{§. 3.} any but *English Wool*; neither will they be wrought ^{Ch. 129.} into Cloth, without the Help and Mixture of *English* ^{§. 5.} Wool.—Neither will any Wools but *English* and *Spanish* mixed with *English* ^{Ch. 150.} ^{§. 3.} make Cloth.—*French* and ^{Ch. 145.} other foreign Wools (without *British* or *Irish*) will not ^{§. 1.} make several Assortments ^{Ch. 62.} fit for foreign Trade;—will ^{§. 2.} not make *Cloth* or *Stuffs* for Ornament or ^{Ch. 145.} Use.—No ^{§. 1.} Cloth for Exportation ^{Ch. 57.} ^{§. 12.} ^{Ch. 140.} ^{§. 4.} ^{Ch. 51.} ^{§. 3.} ^{Ch. 143.} ^{Nº 5.} ^{§. 7.} ^{Notes} ^{Ch. 132.} ^{§. 4.}

26. Thus, while the *peculiar* Properties, and marvellous Qualities of *British* and *Irish*, for mixing with *French*, and other foreign WOOLS, is almost a *Catholic* Opinion, as that of the Infallibility of the Church of *Rome*,

542 *Observations and Inferences.* Ch. 178.

Rome, (among its Votaries): So, (like the Doctors of that Church with their pretended Infallibility,) OUR *English* WOOL-MONGERS are as little agreed where to fix this *supposed Peculiarity* of the *British* and *Irish* WOOLS. And, in truth, both the one and the other, viz. the *Infallibility of the Church of Rome*, and the *Peculiarity of British and Irish* Wools, may, I believe, be concluded under the same Predicament with the *Mountebanks Estate*; of which, while he was boasting, his *Zany* archly and truly said, (not in a figurative but in a literal Sense) *That was neither Here, nor There.*

27. As before observed, these Assertors of the *Peculiarity* of the *British* and *Irish* Wools, with that further Absurdity, of their Use and Benefit, in *mixing*, intrench themselves in general Expressions; without naming any one Species of Goods; because in so doing, 'tis great odds but they would betray themselves; by mentioning such Goods, as appear (in the *Dictionnaire Universel*) to be made abroad, of Wool, confessedly neither mixed with
 • Ch. 156. *British* nor *Irish*. The *Dictionnaire Universel**, speaking
 §. 17. indeed of one Sort of Goods made in *France*, without *British* or *Irish* Wool, does mention a coarser Sort, of the *same Kind*, made chiefly in *England*, and for the *Spanish West-India Trade*, to the amount of 200,000 Livres, that is, almost 10,000 *l.* yearly. But is a *Monopoly* of Goods, to the Amount of 10,000 *l.* a Year, a sufficient Reason for a *Monopoly* against the Grower of *English* Wool, which was long since estimated at 2,000,000 *l.* Sterling a Year.

28. It was a received Opinion, for many Years, that the peculiar Excellency of *English* and *Irish* Wools was such, that CLOTH, *abroad*, could not be made without it. But the Author of *Observations on British*
 † Ch. 140. *Wool*, &c. allows ' that to be a Mistake; and it is well
 §. 1. he does; because it has sufficiently appeared, that the *Clothing Wool* of *England* is so far from being *singularly excellent* for that Purpose, that it is not *particularly eminent* for it. It may be as good as, or better than many Wools; but it is certainly very short of the best of *Spain*
 † Ch. 107. and *Portugal*', and, I believe, some Parts of *France*.
 §. 4. Those in *England*, of *Cotswold*, and the *Isle of Wight*',
 † Ch. 150. are what, as *clothing Wools*, are much celebrated by our
 §. 1. Writers; but they are far inferior to the best *Spanish*
 Wools :

Ch. 178. *Observations and Inferences.* 543

Wools: and if we are to judge of them by their usual Price in *England*, compared with the Price of the Wools of *Portugal* and the middle and inferior *Spanish* Wools, as sold at *Amsterdam* *; they are either very short of * Ch. 171. them too, or else their usual Price in *England*, is much N^o 8. below their natural Value. The latter is certainly the Ch. 172. Case; in some measure; and is most probably the Case altogether; because, as the *English* are said to import only the best * *Spanish* Wools; so, if the best *clothing* * Ch. 105. Wools of *England* were not, nearly at least, equal to the §. 14. middle and inferior Sorts of *Spanish* Wools, these latter would certainly be imported, in order to the making of some Species of Cloths, of a middle Sort, between those made, all of *Superfine Spanish*, and those made of the best *English* Wool only. For thus, we find, the * Ch. 156. *French* make three Sorts of fine Cloth, and these chiefly, §. 3. if not altogether, of *Spanish* Wool.

29. But though the Author of *Observations on British Wool, &c.* * gives up the supposed *Peculiarity* of *English* * Ch. 140. Wools, for making Cloth; yet he contends, no less §. 1. than other Writers, for the peculiar Use and Excellency of *British* and *Irish* Wool; only he says, it is not the short, clothing, but the long, combing WOOL of *Great Britain* and *Ireland*, which is so peculiarly excellent, that therefore it is much coveted abroad. And truly some of the long combing Wool of *England* is so good in its Kind, that it is not easy to conceive better; yet does it not therefore follow that other Countries cannot produce the like; nor, if they cannot, is it a necessary Consequence, that a *Monopoly* of *Manufacture* is to be attained, equal to the Injury done to the *English* Wool Growers in general, by the *Monopoly* to which all their Wool is subjected.

35. Had it been Wool, for CLOTH in general, that was the supposed peculiar Produce of *Great Britain* and *Ireland*, much might have been said in that Case, since CLOTH is a very general Wear, and in many Regards, admits of no rival *Manufacture*. But what is it which this long combing Wool produces chiefly? Not CLOTH, but Stuffs, and Stockins. And what Sort of *Monopoly* is to be expected, of Stuffs and Stockins made of one Sort of Wool, when not only the like, but even the very same are constantly made, of many other Wools, as
Spanish,

544 *Observations and Inferences.* Ch. 178.

Spanish, German, Flemish; in short, of all other Countries; and also when so many other Materials, besides Wool, are manufactured for the like Purposes; as Thread, Cotton, Silk, Goats and Camels Hair; in fine, when *East India Manufactures*, with whatever Materials for Manufacture are brought from the *East* or *West Indies* and from *Turkey, &c.* are all Rivals to the *long combing Wool* of *England* and *Ireland*; or rather, the Manufacture, of the latter, is now used but as somewhat in humble Imitation of the former.

For thus much is true, after all our Boastings of *English* and *Irish* Wool, viz. As the Gentleman will not wear Cloth (for Dress) except it is made entirely of *Spanish Wool*: So neither Gentlemen, nor Ladies, do think our Woolen Stuffs or Stockins good enough for their most ordinary Wear at present. Nor hardly will a common Maid Servant deign to be seen in such on a *Sunday*, or other Holiday. But this, we are to consider, has not always been the Case. Worsted Stuffs and Stockins (before the *Turky*, and *East*, and *West India* Trades, and consequently before the Silk and Cotton Manufacture, and the printing of Linens, &c. became so familiar in *Europe*) were no doubt, in much higher Estimation than at present they are. And moreover, *combing Wool* is not only less in Request for the Reasons here given, now, than *heretofore*; but the same is vastly increased in Quantity, as well as improved in Quality from what it was, a few Ages since: For,

31. The Author of *Observations on British Wool, &c.* names a several Parts of *England*, which only, heretofore, produced the longest and finest *combing Wool*; but says, that, of late Years, there have been Improvements made in the Breed of Sheep and Staple of Wool, by changing Rams, sowing Turnips, Grass Seeds, &c.; by which means there is now, some large fine *combing Wool* in most Counties in *England*; which is true. But can we believe this; and yet be such Children, to imagine that the same Improvements are not practicable in many other Parts of *Europe*? Have not we taken the Hint for these Improvements, by Turnips, Grass Seeds, &c. from abroad? Did then the supposed Peculiarity of the *British* and *Irish* Wools consist in what is properly *Clothing Wool*, the Case had been very different, not only

* Ch. 140.
§. 3.

Ch. 178. *Observations and Inferences.* 545

y because CLOTH least admits of being rivalled by any other slighter Manufactures, but because it must be a natural Turf, (like the Hills of *Cotswold* in England, and the Mountains of *Leon* in Spain) which depastures those Sheep that produce *fine Clothing Wool*. But *combing Wool*, we are told, we know, may be propagated by artificial Means, of Turnips, Grass Seeds, &c. ; and these Means are in the Power of many other Countries, besides *England and Ireland*.

32. The *Invention of the Art of Wool-combing* is ascribed to one Bishop *Blayse* ; which Person, if any such there ever was (for that is doubted) was Bishop of *Sebastia*, and a Martyr (say some^b) in the latter End of the third ; others^c, in the Beginning of the fourth Century. And tho' the *Dictionaire de Morery* makes a doubt of there ever having been such a Bishop, as *Blayse* of *Sebastia* ; yet the Tradition, of him, and of his having been the *Inventor of Wool-combing*, is by no means favourable to the vulgar Opinion, that even *combing Wool* is chiefly to be found in *Great Britain and Ireland*. To his I may add, that *Columbus*, who was born in 1442, was the Son of a *Genoese Wool-comber* ; and originally bred to that Business ; which is an Argument, of the Southern Parts of *Europe* (and no doubt *Asia* also) producing *combing Wool*, as well as *Great Britain and Ireland, Holland, Poland, Germany, &c.*

33. The aforementioned Author of *Observations on British Wool*, &c. says^c that at one Place in *Flanders* (Turcoing) 14 Persons make *Wool-combs*, which, he says, are 12 more than follow that Business in the great City of *London* ; and from which he rightly infers, that there must be a vast Number of *Wool-combers* in that Place and Neighbourhood ; to which I add ; also great Quantities of *combing Wool* : and this too he admits ; but would have it believed (which is no way credible) that the greater Part of it is either *Irish* or *English*.

34. Thus, I think, it appears sufficiently, that even *combing Wool* is no more peculiar to *England and Ireland*, than *Clothing Wool*. They have, its true, both, a great Plenty. But *Wool* abounding in most Parts of *Europe* besides ; and all other Wools being freely bought and sold, as any other Commodity whatsoever : This settling the Case ; that the Wools of *England and Ireland*

546 *Observations and Inferences. Ch.*

should be so far secreted, and absolutely (as it is monopolized, is not defensible, upon any rational principles whatsoever.

35. It appears, by the comparative Difference
 a Ch. 171. the Price of *English Wool* in *England* (1719^d),
 N^o 1—5. Wool at *Amsterdam* in the same Year^c; and by
 * Ch. 172.stant Difference between the Price of *British Wool* in *England*, and of the same in *France*, a foreign Parts, that the Consequence of this *Monopoly* Difference of, from 50 to 60 per Cent. in the *English Wool* in *England*; which Difference is so much, the Grower's Loss, and the Adventurer's specifically the Cause of, because it is the Temp^t that pernicious Practice of *Owling Wool*.

36. I know that another Account is given
Runnage of Wool, and particularly by a late Writer under the Title of *The Schemer's Scrutiny*^c &c.; with others, in fixing the Difference between the *English Wool* in *England*, and of the same in *France* about 60 per Cent. He says indeed that the *French* so much more than the *English* can afford to give and rejecting all other Reasons, as fabulous, affix the real Cause, OUR TAXES, which (says he, occasion 'dear Labour, and that Dearthness of 'causes Smuggling of Wool, &c.'

- * Ch. 48.
 §. 1, 2. Granting then to this Writer every other Point
 Ch. 50. Matter in Issue between us shall be, whether it is
 Ch. 51, monopoly (as I say), or the TAXES (as he says)
 55. which occasions this Difference of 50, or 60 per Cent.
 Ch. 56. which causes the Smuggling of Wool, &c.
 §. 14.
 Ch. 57. Now if I shew that this Difference was, before
 §. 15, 19. Taxes were; and that it had the very same Cause
 Ch. 59. (Smuggling) then, as now; in that Case, I presume
 §. 9. will be granted that I have accounted most truly
 Ch. 61. same. And to this End, as the Taxes complained of
 §. 15. have come, since the Revolution; so I refer to the
 Ch. 62. of Car. II. (when, we have seen a most abundant
 Ch. 66. Smuggling of Wool was a most notorious Trade
 §. 7, 13. during which Times, we find it equally a Complaint
 Ch. 67. at present. 'Foreign Manufacturers work much
 §. 5. cheaper than *English*^b.
 Ch. 50. 'The Dutch work cheaper than the *English*^c.
 §. 13.
 Ch. 56.
 §. 21.

Ch. 178. *Observations and Inferences.* 547

‘ Our Neighbours live, work, and navigate much cheaper *.

^k Ch. 57;

‘ The Advantages our Neighbours have of us [is] in §. 12.

‘ cheap Diet ! *.’

^l §. 21.

37. Having thus fixed the *Difference* (which is the Temptation to Runnage) and also accounted for the same ; let us next inquire what is the whole Loss thereby to the WOOL GROWER. The *Wool* of *England* only, towards the Close of the last Century, was estimated at 2,000,000 *l.* ^m Supposing it then to be yet worth no more than 2,000,000 *l.* ; and that the *Growers* Loss, by Means of the *Difference*, and for the Reason mentioned, is but 40 *per Cent.* ; that is a Loss, to the amount of 800,000 *l.* which if it is not so much, effectually cut off from the Kingdom, as if a County of that Value, was detached from it, or swallowed up by the Sea, or an Earthquake ; yet is it as effectually depriving the *Wool Grower* of so much of his Profits, as if such a Proportion, as forty Fleeces, of every 100, was absolutely taken from him. And further it is attended with all that Loss to the Community in general, which a Diminution of Expence, from such a Defalcation of *English* Income, in the first Instance, amounts to.

^m By Mr. King and Dr. Davenant.

38. For here a Distinction is to be made between that Cheapness of a Commodity or natural Produce, which is the Effect of Plenty or a greater Increase than usual, and that Cheapness which is occasioned by the Want of a fair Market. In the former Case, what is wanting in the *Rate*, is made up in the *Quantity*. But, *for what*, a Man receives no Consideration ; *for that*, he can pay neither RENT nor TAXES ; *with that*, he can pay no Labourers in any Shape, cannot purchase any Wares, or be a Customer to any Shopkeeper or Tradesman whatsoever.

39. So that in this Case, it is not a single Loss, only to particular Persons, of, suppose, 800,000 *l.* ⁿ *per Ann.* ⁿ §. 37;
M m 2 but

* As the Taxes complained of, in this Case, have come, not only since the Reign of *Car. II.* but in, and since the Time of *Queen Anne's* War : So what follows is no less to our Purpose.

‘ No Country in *Europe* manufactures all Kind of Goods, so dearly as this Kingdom.’ ^o Ch. 79;
§. 21.

but of all that domestic Expence, which an annual Income, of 800,000 *l.* in one Instance, may be supposed to create, in all its Circulations and Undulations, not only within the Space of a *Year*, but for *all Time to come*. It is like a principal and fruitful Branch cut off from the main Trunk; or it may, in some Sort, be compared to the striking out of an intermediate Figure from a numerical Sum; by which, every other Figure (on the same Line) except the last, is made *tenfold* less than it was before.

40. This Loss, be it greater or less than here supposed, arises originally from a Mistake in this Case; and from this Mistake have arose all those Petitions to Parliament (in regard to Wool) all those wild Projects and romantic Exaggerations, with which the Public has been pestered, for near 100 Years last past, without any Possibility of Redress, in the Way that has been commonly demanded; and the Reason is, the People being put at first, upon a *wrong Scent*, they have successively followed the *same Cry*; and taking for granted Things that were not true, have been all along looking for that at a Distance, which lies near at Hand, almost at their Feet.

41. To know a Distemper, is half the Cure. Take away the Cause, and the Effect will cease. The Cause of the *Runnage of Wool* is, the *Temptation* to it. Reduce then sufficiently the *Temptation*, and there will be an End of the *Transgression*. The *Temptation* is the Consequence of a *Monopoly*; which *Monopoly* is the Effect of *prohibiting absolutely the Exportation of Wool*.

42. But here let me not be misunderstood; as if because I blame an *absolute Prohibition* in this Case, I am therefore an Advocate for the *Exportation of Wool*; on the contrary, I desire not to be thought insensible of, or indifferent to the *Benefits of Woollen Manufacture*, or of the *Exportation of Woollen Goods*. Many indeed speak of this Subject, as if *prohibiting*, and *preventing* the Exportation of Wool, were the same Things; and as if *preventing the Exportation of Wool*, and *promoting the Woollen Manufacture*, were, in Effect, the same. But these are Combinations of Ideas, not altogether just.

43. Was it in my Choice, I would endeavour to discourage the *Exportation of Wool*, in a Way that should not be injurious and discouraging to the *Grower* of
of

which it does not readily break loose; but on the contrary, is rather apt to hug its Chains, and court its Captivity, even to the palliating of the most gross Absurdities, and seeking to reconcile the strongest Contradictions. Of this, we have, if I am not very much mistaken, an eminent Instance, on our present Subject, even in the *British Merchant*, though the least partial and best informed thereon, of all *English Writers* about it. *The Writer*, after having sufficiently exploded the main, the only Arguments indeed that were tolerable (provided there had been any Truth in them) for prohibiting absolutely the Exportation of Wool—yet, not being able to emancipate himself from a devout Attachment to the Law in this Case, and which had acquired the Sanction, at that Time, of more than half a Century—He (after having told his Readers in the plainest Terms, and upon the clearest Grounds, that Foreigners, and even the *French* particularly, can be in NO WANT OF WOOL for ANY KIND

¶ Ch. 105. OF WORK ^P, though they should not be supplied with
 §. 12. any from *Great Britain* or *Ireland*) does with the very same Breath, contend for a *Register* of the *British* and *Irish* Wools, in order to confine them more certainly to *Great Britain*. And this he does with all that Earnestness, as if the necessary Consequence of such Confinement would be (what other Writers have averred; but which by him was positively denied) the destroying of the *French* and other foreign Woolen Manufactures, and securing that whole Trade to *Great Britain*.

46. And I doubt not, but after all that has appeared in these Memoirs, tending to confirm what the *British Merchant* had said (namely, that the Policy of prohibiting, or even preventing the Exportation of Wool will not do

¶ Ch. 105. THE BUSINESS ^Q) there will, nevertheless, be found
 §. 12. others in the same unaccountable Way of thinking with himself. To such therefore are addressed the following further Considerations; in order to shew that this Matter has been much mistaken in the general; and that the *British Woolen Exportation Trade* turns altogether upon a very different Hinge from this which is so vulgarly conceived to be a ruling Cause, the main Spring thereof.

47. First, though, of all the several Parts of *Europe*, *Spain*, and *Portugal*, do produce the very best Wool, in sufficient Plenty; yet do those two Kingdoms (commonly

Ch. 178. *Observations and Inferences.* 551

1. *Merely speaking*) afford to *Great Britain* the largest Vent,
 and the best Market for all *British Woolen Goods*;
 and which these, it's plain, do not buy, through any
 want of Wool; for of that they have great Quantities,
 and better (its said ¹) than ever grew in *England*. 2. Tho' ² Ch. 107.
Sweden and *Denmark* depasture perhaps, the fewest Sheep §. 4.
 comparatively; and which (by Reason of the long and
 severe Winters there) grow the very worst Wool in *Eu-*
rope; yet do they prohibit most ³, and but very sparingly ⁴ Ch. 169.
 admit any Woolen Goods, of foreign Manufacture. §. 6, 7.
 3. *Russia* (which, being much in the same Situation
 with *Sweden* and *Denmark*, we may conceive to be,
 nearly, in the like Circumstances, in respect of Sheep
 and Wool) upon any Disgust received, makes no Diffi-
 culty of excluding all *British Woolen* ¹ Manufacture ² Ch. 134.
 whatsoever. 4. Moreover, *France* (which next to those §. 3. *Note*.
 Northern Kingdoms above-mentioned, is commonly
 reckoned to be the least capable of carrying on any
 Woolen Manufacture or Trade) is not only *Great Bri-*
tain's principal and most formidable Rival in that Respect;
 but rivals her most of all (in several Parts of *France*, viz.
Provence, *Dauphiny*, and *Languedoc* ¹) in the Trade to ² Ch. 166,
Turky, *Persia*, *Italy*, *Spain*, and the *Spanish West In-*
dies, with all Kinds of Woolen Goods, the very same
 that are made in *Great Britain* and *Ireland*; but at the
 same Time, made from Wool ³, in which that of *Great* ⁴ Ch. 167.
Britain and *Ireland*, is not so much as pretended to have §. 3.
 any the least Share. §. 9. *Note*.

48. And here we may further note, (which I think
 shews yet more, the mistaken Policy of *Great Britain*,
 in prohibiting absolutely the Exportation of Wool and
 Yarn) that tho' most of the *European Nations*, practising
 Woolen Manufacture, do, according as they succeed in
 any particular Branch of it, almost constantly prohibit,
 or charge with high Duties, the like from any foreign
 Country; yet do none of them, not even the *French*,
 prohibit the Exportation of their own WOOL or YARN.
 They know too well the Mischiefs of Monopoly; and
 are too wise and tender of the Grower, (the Landed In-
 terest) and of the Spinners of WOOL (the Poor) to subject
 them to the Hardship of such unequal Usage.

48. Many Countries either prohibit, or lay high
 Duties on such *Woolen Manufactures* as interfere most

552 *Observations and Inferences. Ch. 17*

with their own: And *Great Britain* is so expert perhaps, *all Kinds* of *Woolen Manufacture*; or at least manufactures *so much*, of various *Kinds*, that it does effect, prohibit any foreign *Woolen Manufacture* whatsoever: And the *British Merchant* truly says, it is well judged, in so doing; and why so well judged? *Because* otherwise, *Foreigners*, (he says) the *French* particularly, would pour in such *Quantities* of their *Woolen Manufactures*, as would *make our Hearts ache*. And how then, in the Name of Sense and Reason, can we suppose, that any great Matters are to be effected by a *Regist*, or by any other Means, absolutely and merely prohibitory, for the confining certainly *OUR WOOLS*? what

Ch. 99.
§. 2.
Note.

Ch. 105.
§. 12 (as the *British Merchant* hath declared) THIS WILL NOT DO THE BUSINESS. Even the *FRENCH* (for Instance) can be in NO WANT OF WOOL, tho' they should not be supplied with any from *Great Britain* and *Ireland*.

50. This then is the Difference of *British Policy*, in these two Respects; 1. of prohibiting absolutely the Exportation of WOOL and YARN; 2. of prohibiting in effect, all foreign *Woolen Manufacture*. In the latter, we have on our Side, the Practice, more or less, of almost *all Nations* in *Europe*. In the former, we stand single. Which Circumstance, added to what has occasionally been observed before, in the Course of their *Memoirs*, should methinks induce a Re-examination of what has now, for near a Century, been taken for granted, and built upon, as first Principles; namely, that to *prohibit*, is to *prevent* the *Exportation* of *Wool*; that such *Prevention* is, to *promote* infallibly, both the *Woolen Trade*, and the *Woolen Manufacture*; and likewise to *advance* the *Price* of that *English Material*, *Wool*, in *England*; not a single Part of which (I venture to say it) can be maintained for *Truth*.

51. This at least however may be said, that if it is good Policy, to *prohibit absolutely* the *Exportation* of *Wool* from *Great Britain* and *Ireland*; it must be so, for some particular *good Reasons*; which *Reasons* cannot be said to be *good*, otherwise than as they may be said and proved to be *true*.

But of all the Arguments taken from a Supposition of *Facts*, of any Kind, which have appeared in this *Collection*, in order to support the said *Policy* above mentioned,

Ch. 179. *The Conclusion : A Scheme.* 553

tioned, I cannot recollect a single one, that is not egregiously false; except this one, and which has rather been obliquely hinted, and occasionally dropp'd, than publickly maintained and directly insisted on, viz. *The Benefits to the MANUFACTURE, (i. e. the Woolen Exportation Trade) from the Cheapness of the MATERIAL, WOOL.* This I grant is so far true, that, *to prohibit the Exportation of Wool*, is creating a MONOPOLY against the Grower, and thereby, lowering considerably the PRICE OF WOOL. But whether *thus robbing Peter, to enrich Paul, is of any real public Benefit?* that is the Point to be considered; it is what I doubt, or rather deny.

But, if any Persons are of Opinion, that the *Prohibition on Wool* is defensible on *that Foot alone*; and that it is expedient for this Kingdom, that the WOOLS of Great Britain and Ireland should be constantly depressed below their *natural Value*, by being kept at a *Price*, less considerably, than the *Market Price* of Europe, for those and all other Wools; let such avow it, and let them abide by it; and take the general Suffrage of the People, and particularly of the *Landed Interest* upon it.

C H A P. CLXXIX.

The Conclusion : A Scheme.

N U M B. I.

1. **O**N this Subject, I will suppose the great Point in View to be, *the Benefit of the Public*, in a three-fold Respect; 1. of the *whole Woolen Manufacture* in general; 2. of the *Woolen Exportation Trade* in particular; 3. the *Price of English Wool* in England.

2. The chief *Medium* fixed upon, for effectuating all this, has been, to *prohibit absolutely the Exportation of Wool*; which I take to be a *Measure* either wholly incompetent, or at the best improper in *every Respect*.

3. The *whole Woolen* * *Manufacture* is best promoted * See N^o 2, by the *Price of English Wool* in England; and that par- §. 10. ticular Part, the *Woolen Exportation Trade* of Great Britain,

554 *The Conclusion: A Scheme.* Ch. 179.

Britain, by advantageous Treaties of Commerce; as may be instanced more particularly in our Trade with
 * Ch. 88. *Portugal*. And the *Price of English Wool* in England,
 §. 6. under an *absolute Prohibition*, appears to be constantly
 Note. and necessarily, 50 or 60 *per Cent. under Par*, i. e.
 Ch. 106, under the Market Price of *Europe* for Wool; which last
 107. Circumstance, while the World and it endures, will
 * No 2. (without a *Registry* at least) always defeat the Expecta-
 §. 16. tions of the Public, for preventing the *Exportation of*
 Chap. 48. *Wool*.
 §. 3.

4. But, as in all political Disquisitions, the End of finding Fault should be, with a View to correct, and not to demolish one Theory, without raising up some other in its Place: So, having in the foregoing Chapters, made Objections to the Policy and Laws *prohibiting absolutely the Exportation of Wool*, I proceed to offer to public Consideration an *Alternative* in that Case.

5. Many, 'tis true, have talked of ruining the *French Commerce* in Woolen Manufacture, by depriving them
 * Ch. 143. of *British* and *Irish* Wool. But *Great Britain* may as
 No 4. §. 6. well think of making a Province of *France*, by the single Strength of her own Arms; as, by depriving *France* of *British* and *Irish* Wool, to ruin the *French* Woolen Manufactures.

6. Nevertheless, tho' *Great Britain* cannot hope so far to subdue *France*, as to make a Province of it; nor to ruin the *French* Commerce in Woolens; yet *Great Britain* has the Means of *Self-Defence*; may not only preserve, but promote her own *Manufacture*, and extend her own *Trade*.

7. Moreover, not only the *Runnage*, but, I think, the *Exportation of Wool* may be prevented, both from *Great Britain* and *Ireland*. However, before I give the particular Heads of a *Scheme*, for that Purpose, I desire to lay down, as the Basis or Foundation thereof, a Set of Opinions, taken chiefly out of the foregoing *Memoirs*.

N U M B. II.

* Ch. 177. 1. As the *Landed* is the most considerable *National*
 §. 21. *Interest*; so that of *Pasture Ground* is the most valuable
 of

Ch. 179. *The Conclusion: A Scheme.* 555

of the *Landed*; and *WOOL* the principal Article* for the Support of *both*.

2. The Concern of *WOOL* is, without doubt, to be taken Care of. Ch. 79. §. 15.

3. *Among the National Calamities incident to England, this is reckoned one,* 'For *WOOL* to sink in its Price.' Davenport on the Balance of Trade. Page 111. Ch. 177. §. 21.

4. The *Rent* and *Taxes* yearly paid from *grazing Lands*, entitle the Owners and Occupants in a more peculiar Manner to the Regard of the Public.

5. Since so great a Charge both in *Rent* and *Taxes* lies upon the *Pasture Grounds*; and *WOOL* is the main Product of the same, 'tis inexcusable to neglect and depress it.

6. Since no Man can be entitled to keep a Flock of Sheep, or cut a Pack of *WOOL*, without paying a valuable Consideration for the *Pasture*, it is plain the legal Inconveniencies of *Rent* and *Taxes* must be provided for.

The *WOOL* of *Great Britain* being our best and choicest Product, requires our utmost Care.

8. *WOOL* lying upon the *Graziers* Hands, extends to the Prejudice of almost all the People of *England*. Ch. 41. §. 12.

9. The *Woolen Manufacture* is undoubtedly, by Laws, and all possible Care to be encouraged. Ch. 79. §. 2.

10. The

Icenia, Norfolk.

* 'Hæc ruris pars, ut Occidentis reliquæ, pascendis
'Ovibus magnopere exponitur; pleræque Villæ aut unum,
'aut duo, aut tria, interdum quatuor vel quinque millia
'nutriunt; ut intelligas *Proceres Angliæ* apud *Edw. I.* de
'Vectigali Lanis imposito conquærentes, consulto affirmasse
'Opum Regni dimidium in Lanis consistere.'

RELIGIÆ SPELMANIANÆ, (1723.) Page 162.

And though it cannot be said, at this Day, that half the Riches of the Kingdom does consist in *Wool*. Yet, besides what Sir *Josiah Child* has saidⁿ, (*that Wool is eminently the Foundation of the English Riches*) it does yet constitute, virtually at least, an eminent Part of the *Landed Interest*. It is no less now, than heretofore, a Share of that Part of the *English Wealth*, which belongs to the *Proceres Angliæ*; the *Nobility*, *Gentry*, and *Clergy* of this Kingdom. (See therefore §. 2—8.) Ch. 73. §. 1.

556 *The Conclusion : A Scheme. Ch. 179.*

¹ Ch. 100. 10. The first and best Market ¹ of *England* are the
 §. 2. Natives and Inhabitants of *England*. All our foreign ²
² Ch. 100. Markets cannot be equal to one Twentieth Part of *our*
 §. 10. *own*, for taking off our native Product and Manufactures.
 Therefore *our own Consumption*, the Consumption of *our*
own People, are the best and greatest Market for the
 Product and Manufactures of *our own Country*. The
 Preservation and Increase of this Market ought therefore
 to be the Thing principally regarded.

¹ Ch. 69. 11. All *domestic* ¹, or *foreign Trade*, that doth not in
 §. 3. Result and Consequences thereof, increase the Value of the
our English Lands (the good Plight whereof is the main
 Basis of our Wealth, Freedom, and Safety) ought not
 only to be discouraged, but totally rejected.

² Ch. 103. 12. The Interest of *Merchants* ² ought not to be con-
 §. 2. sidered (in Commerce) so much as that of *Landholders*,
 and *Manufacturers*.

² Ch. 69. 13. All *Monopolies* ², of what Nature and Kind so-
 §. 4. ever, are destructive to Trade, and consequently ob-
 structive to the Increase of the Value of our Lands.

⁹ Ch. 66. 14. The confining ⁹ of the Market and Choice of
 §. 17 Note. Chapmen, in any Degree, is dangerous and prejudicial
 to Trade; and in a larger Sense, may be called a *Mo-
 nopoly*.

² Ch. 129. 15. To forbid ² the Exportation of any Commodity
 §. 1. to another Country, is to command it to be sold at your
 own Price.

⁹ Ch. 48. 16. They ⁹ that give the best Price for a Commodity
 §. 3. shall never fail to have it, by one Means or other, not-
 withstanding the Opposition of any Laws by Sea or
 Land; of such Force, Subtilty, and Violence, is the
 general Course of Trade.

¹ *Essay on* 17. Where ¹ the Profit is great by *Smuggling*, no Risk,
the Causes no Danger can prevent Mens attempting it; it is like
of the De- throwing out a Bait to a greedy Fish; he will snap at
cline of it, though Ruin ensues.
foreign
Trade.

² Ch. 127. 18. A Register ² of *Wool*, in any Shape, would be
 §. 13. attended with a Multiplicity of Accounts, besides other
 Difficulties, and great Expences.

¹ Ch. 146. 19. The first Step ¹, to prevent the Exportation of
 §. 11. *Wool*, is, to take away the *Temptation* to it.

N^o 2. §. 1.

20. *Cæteris*

Ch. 179. *The Conclusion : A Scheme.* 557

20. *Cæteris paribus* *. Those that are forced to give * *Essay, &c.* ten or fifteen *per Cent.* Advance on the Price of our p. 57. Wool, cannot trade at all.

21. If the *Prohibition* * were removed, and due Imposts * Ch. 57. charged upon *Wool exported*, it might thereby, better §. 19. than by the *Prohibition*, be either retained at home, or rendered so chargeable to our Neighbours, that we might have sufficient Advantages over them in that Manufacture.

22. The only effectual * Way, to render the Export- * Ch. 133. tation of Wool impracticable, is to enable our Manu- §. 8. *Note.* facturers and Merchants to work it up at home, and sell it so wrought up, to foreign Markets, cheap as such Manufactures can be sold by any of our Neighbours.

23. *Premiums* * on the Exportation of Goods, enable * Ch. 124. the Merchant to sell them so much cheaper at foreign §. 7. Markets, than he could otherwise afford them; and are of *singular Use* in Cases, where we are underfold by others; for which Reason, it is a *Nation's Profit*, to give *Premiums*, where the Sale of their Manufactures would otherwise be lessened.

N. B. *Each of the foregoing Particulars I take to be undoubtedly true; but any one of them, considered apart from the rest, will be apt to produce a partial; consequently, but an imperfect Scheme; that which follows, is therefore compounded out of them all.*

N U M B. III.

Heads of a Scheme.

1. *A Premium*, of 10 *l. per Cent.* for all Woolen Goods, of *British*, or *Irish* Manufacture, exported from *Great Britain*.

2. *A Premium*, of 16 *s. per Pack*, for all *Irish* Fleece, or Skin Wool, imported to *Great Britain*.

3. *Irish* Woolen Yarn to be imported to *Great Britain*, free from all Duty.

4. *Irish* Woolen Manufacture to be exported from thence to *Great Britain* only, and to pay a Duty of 12 *l. per Cent.*

5. *Irish* Black Cattle alive, to be imported to *Great Britain*, as before the first *Prohibition*, 15 *Car. II.*

6. Fleece

6. Fleece or Skin Wool, if exported from *Great Britain*, to be subject to a *Duty* of 3 *l.* a Pack. A Permit for the same to be granted by the Collector of the Excise, at his *public* *Sittings*, in that District wherein the Wool was grown and shorn, or pulled, or imported from *Ireland*, or first lodged after shearing, or pulling, &c. The Grower or Vender to make Oath of the Number of Packs, and their Weight; and that it is only Fleece Wool, as it was shorn and wound, or skin Wool, as it was plucked; unpicked, or sorted, forced, or clacked; i. e. without any other Refuse than what is always made by common Wool-Buyers, for home Use.

* Ch. 11. §. 9. Note. An Entry thereof to be made by the Collector himself, and by every other Officer of Excise attending at that Sitting. The Purchaser or intended Exporter, to pay down half the Duty to the Collector of the Excise; and to confess himself a Debtor to the Crown for the other Moiety, to be paid to the proper Officer of the Customs, at the Port to which it is destined by the Permit; and which Permit shall be good for Days, and no longer. The proper Officer of the Customs to see the same weighed, and receive a Moiety of the Duty, with the Collectors Permit, which shall be a Receipt for the other Part. The said Officer of the Customs likewise shall take an Oath of the intended Exporter, that they are the same Packs of Wool, for which the Permits were obtained, having not been since unpacked.

7. Combed Wool to be liable to a Duty, of 6 *l.* a Pack, on Exportation from *Great Britain*, under the same Regulations, as raw Wool, of a Permit from the Collector of Excise, &c.

8. Woolen or Worsted Yarn to be subject to the same Duty on Exportation from *Great Britain*, and to the same Rules, and in Bales of the same Weight, as combed Wool, which also shall be in Packs of a certain Weight, the same as raw Wool, viz. 240 Pounds each.

9. Small Skains, or Cruel Yarn, to be exported from *Great Britain*, at a moderate Duty, in Bales not less than Pounds Weight, after being subjected to a proper View, for preventing Frauds.

10. All Wool, Yarn, and Woolen Manufacture to be imported from *Ireland* to *Great Britain*, in Register Ships,

Ch. 179. *The Conclusion: A Scheme.* 559

Ships, &c. conformably to the Statute of 12 George II. c. 21. (See Chap. 142. P. S.)

11. *The present Laws*, for preventing the illicit Exportation of Wool from *Great Britain*, and of Wool and Woolen Manufacture from *Ireland* to foreign Parts, to be and remain in their full Force, except as by *this Scheme* virtually excepted.

12. *No Wool* to be carried Coastways, or upon any River, more than over a Ferry, in the common Ferry Boats.

13. *A Reward* equal to 500 *per Cent.* (instead of all other Rewards) to be paid out of the public Revenue, for all Wool, Yarn, and Woolen Goods, in a contraband Trade seized, at Sea, or unlawfully put on Board any navigable Vessel whatsoever. The Public to avail itself out of the Goods and Chattels, and other Confiscables of the Offender, or Offenders, in the first Place; and further to be entitled to one Moiety of the Forfeitures in such Case incurred, by Laws now in being; the other Moiety of the same to be to the *Crown*. The *Captain*, *Master*, or *chief Mariner*, having Direction of such Ship or other navigable Vessel, for the Time being, with as many others of the *Crew* as may be supposed privy to the Lading thereof, (without discovering the same) to be always deemed as Accomplices; and in Case of *non* Payment of the whole Penalty, of 500 *per Cent.* to suffer Death, as *Felons*. And (for preventing Collusion) in Case of any Seizure, and that such accountable *Captain*, *Master*, or *Mariners*, or some of them, at least, is not apprehended and committed to some one of the *King's* Prisons: In that Case, the Person or Persons so seizing, to be entitled only to a Moiety of the Wool, &c. seized.

14. All Wool exported to *Guernsey*, *Jersey*, &c. to be carried to the Port of *Southampton*, from the Places where grown, by Permits; as in the Case of Exportation to foreign Parts. Those Permits to be granted upon Oath, of the Quantity, and that the same is intended for *Guernsey*, &c. and upon a Bond given, with Sureties, for a *Duty*, of 4 *l.* a Pack; which Bond not to be discharged, but by a proper Certificate of its being landed in *Guernsey*, &c. within a Time limited; or otherwise, by Payment of the Sums specified.

C H A P.

C H A P. CLXXX.

The Grounds and Reasons of the foregoing Scheme.

1. **A**'S no *Orders of Men* take it well to be divested of Advantages long possessed, however unreasonable in themselves, or by whatever Means obtained; and because there is some Truth, tho' not altogether so much as is commonly urged, about *dear Labour* in *England*, and the comparatively *lower Wages* of Foreigners, the *French* particularly, (which last is owing rather to a more penurious Habit of living, occasioned by a different Climate, and Constitution of Government, than to what is so commonly assigned for it, *high Duties*, &c.) There-
 * Ch. 179. fore, this Premium², of 10 *per Cent.* is allotted to the
 N^o 3. §. 1. Exportation of Woolens; as an Equivalent for the present *Monopoly* against the Wool Growers, *by prohibiting absolutely the Exportation of Wool.* For that such *absolute Prohibition* is in the Nature of a *Monopoly*, and can be considered in no better View, than that of a *Premium* to the Exporter of Woolen Goods, I trust, has been sufficiently proved.
2. And tho' a *Premium* is allowed^a to be of great Expediency, in many Instances; yet, as the Matter stands at present, in relation to *English Wool*, it is attended with the following Injustice, as well as Impropriety. 1st. Whereas all *Premiums* should be paid by the State^{*}, *i. e.* the Community, this is a Burden charged, instead of the Whole, upon a Part of the People, the *Growers of Wool only*; which is unjust. 2^{dly}, This *Premium*, thus wrong placed, is improperly paid; as being a *Premium* to the whole Woolen Manufacture of *Great Britain*; when it is beyond Dispute, that at the most, such Part only, as is exported, needs a *Premium*; and this Part,
 * Mr. King, (upon the Foot of former Computations^b) is but $\frac{1}{4}$ of
 and Dr. the
 Davenant.

* See (Ch. 167. §. 7, 8, 9.) the Premiums given to what are called the *Royal Manufacturies of Languedoc*, but those not paid by any select Interest, or particular Persons, but out of their public Purse, by the *States of Languedoc*.

the whole Woolen Manufacture. So that the Wool-grower lies at present under this double Hardship, 1st, of paying out of his *own Pocket*, what should be paid by *himself and the whole Kingdom besides*; 2dly, of paying four times as much as the *whole Kingdom* needs to pay.

3. Now it being calculated, that upon a Medium, Wool is improved fourfold, in Manufacture; upon that Foot, 100 *l.* prime Cost in Wool, produces Manufacture to the Value of 400 *l.* So that a *Premium* of 10 *per Cent.* in the *Manufacture*, is equal to 40 *per Cent.* in the *Material*. And whatever therefore, upon the Consideration of such a *Premium*, on *Woolen Goods exported*, can be advanced to the Grower, for his Wool, will be so much taken from the *Owler's Gain*, (which is his Temptation) and given to its natural Proprietor, the *Grower of Wool*. For here it is to be considered, that by such *Premium* as aforesaid, the Price of Wool can only be advanced, in *Great Britain and Ireland*; and the *Manufacture alone* being entitled to the *Premium*, the manufacturing Purchasers only will be enabled to pay more for their Wool, upon that Consideration.

4. A competent *Premium*, for Fleece or Skin Wool : Ch. 179. imported from *Ireland to Great Britain*, will be a Means N^o 3. to bring the Wool of *Ireland* to *British Markets*, upon §. 2, 3. an equal Foot with *British Wool*; which will be one Means to prevent the Exportation of it to foreign Parts. At present, we are told *, Wool bears a better Price in *Ireland* than in *Great Britain*; which may be thus accounted for. The Runnage of Wool, as well from the Situation of the Country, as from the more general Disposition of the People there, being rather more practicable, from *Ireland*, than from *Great Britain*; the *Monopoly*

* The Author of *A Scheme to prevent the running of Irish Wools to France*, published (1745.) By a Person styling himself, *A Merchant of London*, makes the then Medium Price of *Irish Wools* in *Ireland*, 12 *s.* per Stone, and rates the best at 16 *s.*; 'at which Price (*says he*, p. 32.) 'the fine Wools of that Country were sold, last Year.' (I suppose he meant in 1743, when all English Wool in ^d See England, that of Cotswold ^a particularly, advanced consi- Ch. 171. derably; but did not come up to the Prices, here mentioned, of N^o 5, 6, 7, 8. Irish Wool, in Ireland.)

562 *The Grounds and Reasons* Ch. 180.

supply against the Grower, is not equally strong in that Kingdom, as in this. In short, the *Owler* running less Risk from *Ireland*, than from *Great Britain*, will trade for less Profit there, and consequently give the *Grower* a better Price for his Wool. This raising the Price of *Irish* Wool in *Ireland*, above that of *English* Wool in *England*, is a Reason why so little raw Wool is imported to *Great Britain* from *Ireland* *. And if the lower Labour of *Ireland* than that of *England*, did not bring *Irish* Yarn nearer to a Level with the Price of *British* Yarn, we should find very little of that also imported to *Great Britain*. But with regard to Yarn, it is to be presumed that, allowing for the Difference between a licit, and an illicit Trade, the *British* Merchants give as much for it, as *Foreigners* do; without doing which, they could not have it. By the same Rule therefore that *British* Merchants do now import *Irish* Yarn, because it is, at least, not dearer than *British*; so, when *British* Wool, being sufficiently advanced, in *England*, (in Consequence of a Premium on Woolens thence exported) shall be brought near to a Level, in Price, with *Irish* Wool in *Ireland*; then, will this Premium of 16 Shillings a Pack for *Irish* Fleece, or Skin Wool imported, be some Inducement to *British* Dealers to import *Irish* Wool, as well as Yarn; by which means, both the *Runnage* of Wool from thence, and the manufacturing of it there, for foreign Parts, will receive some Discouragement.

5. The Exportation of Woolen Manufacture, from *Ireland* to foreign Parts, is a Point greatly controverted. Some hold for an absolute Prohibition. Others contend for the Expediency of an unlimited Freedom in that Case. Several others are for compromising the Matter, different Ways. And thus much is found by Experience to be true, viz. That it is equally impracticable (by prohibitory Laws only) to prevent the Exportation of Woolen Manufacture.

* See
Ch. 126.
§. 10. (A).

* In the Year 1700 *, the Quantity of raw Wool imported from *Ireland* to *England*, was 336,292 large Stones; of Yarn, 26617.

In the Year 1743, Wool, 19093 Stones; Yarn (Worsted and Woolen) 83846 large Stones. (See *A Scheme for preventing the Running of Irish Wool to France*. By a Merchant of London, (1745) p. 34.)

Manufacture from *Ireland* to foreign Parts, as it is (*by the same Kind of Laws*) to prevent effectually the Exportation of Wool from *Great Britain* and *Ireland*. The *Temptation* is the *Reason*, both in one Case, and in the other. It is said that the *Irish* can undersell the *English* in Woolen Manufacture at foreign Markets, 16 *per Cent.* ^{Ch. 143. No 1. §. 1.} This at once is the Ground of the Prohibition, and the Motive for transgressing it. It is for the Sake of this 16 *per Cent.* that Adventurers do risk the Penalties. Those who contend for an unlimited Freedom, for exporting Woolen Manufacture from *Ireland* to foreign Parts, argue that the Consequence would be, a total Prevention of the Runnage of raw Wool from thence; and for which they urge; 1. The Experience of Times past. 2. The Nature of the Thing; both which I deny. *First*, whereas they suggest, that the Practice of running Wool from *Ireland*, arose from the *Irish* being prohibited to export Woolen Manufacture, to foreign Parts, *Ann.* 1699. The Truth is, that the *Runnage of Wool* from *Ireland* is a Complaint of a much ^{Ch. 143.} longer standing; but more particularly from the Prohibition of *No 8.* *Irish Cattle*, in *England*. *2dly*, From the Nature of the ^{§. 14. Note.} Thing, they alledge, that, granting the *Irish* a Liberty of exporting Woolen Manufacture to foreign Parts: In that Case, the Parliament of *Ireland*, after the Example of *Great Britain*, would make strict Laws, for prohibiting the Exportation of Wool, with a like Resolution of executing the same. But admitting this; yet would the *Irish* be just in the same Circumstance with the *English*, as to a *Monopoly* against the *Grower*, and *this Monopoly* would have the same Effect in both Kingdoms, of keeping the Price of Wool, at *under Par.* Consequently a lucrative ^{Ch. 143. No 3. §. 4.} Trade would still present itself; against which, penal and coercive Laws, (we have been told,) would avail little; but in both Kingdoms, where the Situation was equally convenient, the *Runnage of Wool* would still be continued. I know it is a common Opinion, that could the Exportation of Wool from *Ireland* be prevented, the same might be effected in *Great Britain*. And so I think too. But then, I apprehend that this is a Matter more difficult to be effected, in either Place, even in *Great Britain*, as well as *Ireland*, than most Persons are apt to imagine. In both Kingdoms,

566 *The Grounds and Reasons* Ch.

Cent. more; and it is 70 *per Cent.*; besides Freight Factorage, which may be reckoned at 10 *per Cent.* the whole, 80 *per Cent.*; viz. 20 *per Cent.* more they have been used, and consequently, *so much* ^{1 Ch. 178.} *than they can afford to pay.* For, as before obse
§. 16. Foreigners have *always* given as much for *British* Wool, as their Markets would afford; and Difference between the Value thereof in *Great Britain* and in *France* and other foreign (abstracting from what would be allowed for Freight Factorage, in a legal open Trade) is only the *Runnage*, a *Consideration for the Risks run.* And convinced of this, we need only consider, that in of a legal open Trade for the same, the Difference Price, between *British* Wool in *Britain*, and *Irish* in *Ireland*; and of those same Wools in *France* and other foreign Parts, would be no more than the Freight and Factorage. And in like manner, though Price of these Wools, for clandestine Exportation, under the present Laws of Prohibition, vary somewhat from particular Incidents; yet after a few Vibrations soon returns to its natural Centre, or Balance, between the *Profits* in one Scale, and *Hazards* in the other.

9. Under the present Laws of Prohibition, Foreigners the *French* particularly, pay ordinarily (it seems) 10 *per Cent.* more for *British* and *Irish* Wool, however *fine* Wool, than the *British* Manufacturer does pay. Reason whereof is, the *British* Manufacturer, by reason of the Prohibition, can buy it *so much cheaper*; and *French, &c.* cannot afford to pay more than *so much dearer.* But in Consequence of the Scheme proposed a Premium of 10 *per Cent.* on exported Woolen *British* Manufacturer may give on a Medium, at least 10 *per Cent.* more for *British* and *Irish* Wool than at present he does give, or, at any Time, since the *Restoration* given. And the foreign Manufacturer (if he will purchase any) *must* give (as we compute) 80 *per Cent.* i. e. 20 *per Cent.* beyond what he can afford. But ^{2 Ch. 179.} *been laid down for a Maxim*, that, *ceteris paribus* ^{Nº. 2.} 'those that are forced to give 10 or 15 *per Cent.* advance on the Price of our Wool, cannot trade at all. And thus will be compassed the Thing so long sought for, of preventing not only the *Runnage*, but the *Export*

1 Ch. 178.
§. 16.
2 Ch. 179.
Nº. 2.
§. 20.

tion of Wool. Thus will be effected (what we may suppose has all along been ultimately intended^r and aimed at) ^{Ch. 17} *a constant full Market Price for British Wool, an enlarged No. 1. Woolen Manufacture, as well as Woolen Exportation §. 1. Trade.*

Some perhaps will be ready to say, that the *Runnage of Wool* would still be continued, notwithstanding all this Contrivance to prevent it: But here it is to be consider'd, upon what *Terms* it must be run, in that Case, if at all, and at what *Hazard*. The Duty which, according to *this Scheme* and way of reasoning, *legal Exporters of Wool must pay*, but *cannot afford*, is *30 per Cent.*; or may be made so, if it should prove less. And therefore the *Smuggler*, if he trades at all, and who has been used to deal at, suppose, 50, must deal for less than 30, as, v. g. for *25 per Cent.* Profit; and at the same time, must run far greater Risks, for less than half the Consideration he had been used to be tempted with; which we conceive is too small an Inducement for any, even the most rash and adventurous; especially when considering, that by disallowing the Carriage of Wool Coastways^r, &c. in ^{Ch. 17} every Attempt for Runnage, such Wool must necessarily, ^{No 3.} for the most part, pass through two or three several ^{§. 11, 1:} Hands; each of which risking the *whole Penalty*, and consequently requiring their Share of the Profit, there would not be, for any one of them, more than from about 8 to 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ *per Cent.* possible Gain. And the Payment of 500^r *per Cent.* Reward to the Seizer, at the ^{Ch. 17} Expence of the Transgressor, or with the Forfeiture of ^{No 3.} his Life, (the one or the other not to be eluded) would ^{§. 13.} be such a Terror and Discouragement, as would certainly quash all Attempts of that kind. And if this capital Punishment is thought too severe in this Case particularly, I only refer to the known allowed Maxims, (*Salus Reipublicæ, &c. Volenti non fit Injuriâ*;) and desire them to compare this Clause with that Statute, and the Reason of it, which makes it Death to have *Coining Instruments* found upon any Person, &c.

10. By proposing to permit the Exportation of combed Wool^r, and Yarn, at a Duty of 6*l.* a Pack; the single ^{Ch. 17} Intention thereof is, to prevent all Combinations and ^{No 3.} *Monopolish* Practices, too frequently exercised, in these ^{§. 7, 8.} and every other Branch of Trade; and which, in this

568 *The Grounds and Reasons* Ch. 180.

Part of Trade more especially (where-ever practised) centers ultimately on the *Wool Grower*, and the *Landed Interest*; all intermediate Dealers making their Reprisals upon one another. And as the *Duty*, in both these Cases, is greater than upon the *Wool raw*, there can be no Detriment to the Public, from those two Articles; since the Labour of combing and spinning is no inconsiderable Part of Woolen Manufacture.

¶ Ch. 179. 11. As to *small Skains*, or *Cruel Yarn* ¶; for the
Nº 3. §. 9. Reason of permitting the Exportation thereof, at a moderate Duty, see Chap. 145. §. 13.

12. And with regard to Wool, to be exported to
¶ Ch. 179. *Guernsey* ¶, &c. Whereas there have been many Suspi-
Nº 3. cions and Complaints of Fraud, in that Case, it is pre-
§. 14. sumed that the same are hereby sufficiently provided
against.

13. It remains, to fix upon a proper Fund, for Payment of the *Premiums*. This indeed, I apprehend, is the grand Difficulty. But for which, notwithstanding the present State of our *Finances*, none, I think, can be more proper than the *Sinking Fund*; which, as an Aggregate of the unappropriated Surplus of *all other Funds*, is the very Pulse of the *whole Trade of the Nation*, both *Inland* and *Foreign*; falling and rising, just as they ebb and flow. And so far as a *Premium* of 10 per Cent. for all Woolen Goods exported, can be thought to promote the *Exports*, and consequentially the *Imports*, to the Increase of the *Customs*; and so far as an Advance, of 40 per Cent. on *British Wool*, to the Grower, may be a Means of increasing the *Income* of the Nation, in that primary Article; and in Consequence thereof, give Life to an Undulation of *Expence* and *Consumption at home*, to the Increase of the *Excise*, and of all other *Inland Duties*: So, in proportion, would be the Increase of the *Sinking Fund*, towards answering the Payment of these *Premiums*; which, at the most, would be but a Commutation of so much Money amongst ourselves, (whatever the Amount thereof should be) by which the Nation might grow richer, could not have a *Shilling less*. It would be but dividing a Part of the *Fruits*, when come to their full Maturity, between the *Lords of the Soil*, and those that had *dug in the Vineyard*. It would be, but, after a *plentiful Crop*, setting aside a small Portion, as
Seed,

Seed, in order to another *Harvest*; while the present *Monopoly* against the *Wool-grower* (reckoning the same but at 40 *per Cent.* Disadvantage to him) is not only a grievous Drawback from the *Landed Interest*, (already too hard laden in other Regards) amounting, at the least, to 800,000 *l. per Ann.*; but it is a further Loss to the whole Nation; rising in the Circle of one Year, to a mighty Sum. This Defalcation of the *Landed Profits*, as Dr. *Davenant* in another Case, less truly has observed, is like ‘lopping off principal Branches, and taking away ‘some of the Bark, and a Part of the Root;’ and surely from a Trunk thus maimed, cannot be expected the same Fruit, as from a sound, healthy, wide-spread flourishing Tree?

14. Could no *material Advantage* be hoped for, to the Public, from the Policy proposed, of a *Premium* of 10 *per Cent.* on Woolen Goods exported from *Great Britain*, in lieu of the present *Monopoly* against the *British Wool-grower*; yet, allowing the former to be any thing of an Equivalent for the latter; and if we do but consider the Difference between imposing a Burden or Tax, that is supposed to be for a public Benefit, upon the *common Stock of the Kingdom*, and charging a *select Body only* with the like or a much greater Sum, for the *same public End*, Equity alone would determine us for the *Premium*, rather than the *Monopoly*.

15. But, from the Nature of the Thing, there is room to look for *extraordinary Advantages* from the proposed Policy of a *Premium*. I shall here quote two Opinions, which happen to concur with me on this Head: 1. Dr. *Davenant*, in his ‘*Essay on the Balance of Trade*. ‘The 7 Page 30.
 ‘Bulk of our Woolen Exports does not consist in Draperies made of *fine Wool*; but is composed of *coarse Cloths* made of a *coarse Wool*; which is to be had in ‘other Countries: So that we are not to value ourselves
 ‘upon the Material. [Therefore] ‘suppose coarse 2 Page 88.
 ‘Cloths, not exceeding a certain Value, should, for a Term of Years, receive upon the Exportation, 10 *per Cent.* Bounty Money, by way of Encouragement from the State, for so much as the Exporters can make appear was carried but to Countries with whom we had no Dealings of that kind before; a Recompence of this nature would, in all probability, increase the
 Woolen

‘Woolen Manufacture in *England*, in not many Years, at least one Third.’ 2. The Author of *A Scheme to prevent the Runnage of Irish Wools to France, by prohibiting the Importation of Spanish Wools to Ireland* (1745). ‘If a small Encouragement, by *Bounty* on Exportation, was given by Parliament on such *Spanish* Cloths as are exported to the *Levant*; I am humbly of Opinion, we should wholly supply both the *Turks* and the *Persians*.’

16. The Sense of the two Writers last quoted, in regard to the Utility of *Premiums*, in *two particular Instances*, prove equally the general Good of them, in the *whole Woolen Exportation Trade*. For tho’ it be true, that there is not the same Reason, upon the Grounds of the *Scheme* here proposed, to give a *Premium* on the Exportation of *Spanish* Cloths, *i. e.* fine Cloths made of *Spanish* Wool only, as on other Drapery made of *British* or *Irish* Wool: Neither is there the same Reason to give a *Premium* on Woolen Goods of any Kind, exported to the *British* Plantations, as, to other foreign Markets. Yet, for many other lesser Reasons, and to avoid all Fraud and Collusion, all Jealousies and Heart-burnings; and in order to carry the *British Woolen Exportation Trade* to the utmost Height, of which it is capable, (and of which there is great Need, in Case the Revulsion here aimed at, takes Effect, of *all the Wool* that heretofore used to be clandestinely exported, both from *Great Britain* and *Ireland*); therefore, it is proposed to make the *Bounty* general; which *Bounty* will, ’tis true, amount to a large Sum. But then, to allay this Consideration, we are to remember, that *every other Scheme* which has been proposed for the like End, was to cost the Nation something; and a *Registry*, a great deal, besides the Trouble it would occasion. And if the Expence of *this Scheme* shall be thought too much, *for preventing the Exportation of Wool*, it is a plain Acknowledgment, that *such Prevention* is not of so great Consequence as it has been commonly represented to be. And it is an Argument, that there is small Hopes of gaining by it those *Millions*, which many, even of the most moderate, have reckoned upon, from *that Event*, if it shall be thought too much, to purchase the same with a few hundred thousand Pounds of public Money; and by which, in all Probability, even the Public would not be in the least impoverish-

impoverished. But on the contrary, as Vapours exhaled from the Earth, by the Sun, are returned in fattening Showers; and as Rivers, from Fountains, those Orifices of the Ocean, run into the Sea: So the *Public Money*, thus issued, would circulate in such wise, that the *Sinking Fund* would be found in some measure, like the *Widow's Meal and Oil*, a constant Supply for the aforesaid Purpose, without any considerable Diminution or Waste. I say, in some Measure, and without any considerable Diminution: Because, it cannot certainly be affirmed, that the Increase of the *Sinking Fund* would be exactly in Proportion to the extraordinary Out-payments thence, in Consequence of this Scheme. Nevertheless, as what present *Sinking Fund* we have, is but a Consequence of the present Trade, Income, and Expence of the Nation: So, all these being reasonably, nay certainly, to be expected to increase, in virtue of this Measure proposed, (for an Increase in the usual Price of Wool, and for an enlarged Woollen Manufacture in the general, and Woollen Exportation Trade in particular); it follows, that the *Sinking Fund* would thereby increase certainly, and necessarily, in a good Degree, if not in full Proportion to such Bounties paid; and therefore, though a considerable Sum would yearly issue on Account thereof, out of the *Sinking Fund*; yet the neat Product of the same would probably amount to as much, within a Trifle at least, (comparatively speaking) as at present it does, and for past Years, has done. In which View, preventing the Exportation of Wool, by the proposed Expedient, a Premium of 10 per. Cent. on Woollen Goods exported, would in Truth, cost the Nation but a very Trifle, if any thing.

17. I am aware, that there are those, who, though they secretly rate the present Prohibition on Wool at very considerable, yet don't estimate it at much, to prevent the Exportation of it. And these are not Novices, with regard to their own separate private Interest. But even these (I mean if they are not *Owlers*, but *Fair Traders* in Woollens) must be told, that they have a Consideration given them for what they shall forgoe, by exchanging this Prohibition on Wool, for a more effectual Means of preventing the Exportation thereof. For, on their Ac-

count chiefly, is proposed the Premium of 10 per Cent. on *Woolen Goods* exported.

18. If it is objected, that, notwithstanding this Premium of 10 per Cent. on *Woolen Goods*, and this Duty of 3 l. a Pack, on Wool, the Exportation of the latter will not be prevented; but, that the Duty will be paid for large Quantities, both of coarse and fine Wool; inasmuch as, and by Reason that, of coarse Work, from coarse Wool, the Premium, of 10, will be far short of raising the Wool, 40 per Cent.; and that for the choicest Parcels of *English* and *Irish* Wool, the Duty, of 3 l. a Pack will be paid. To this I answer, These are Points, to be tried. The Thing would soon demonstrate itself, one way or another. In the mean while, it may be considered, that the coarser, viz. the *Clothing Wools* of Great Britain and Ireland being confessedly ², no rarity, the Duty, alone, of 3 l. a Pack, may well be supposed a sufficient Check to the Exportation of them; and much more, with the Premium, of 10 per Cent. on the Manufacture, whatever that should amount to, in the first Price of the Material, as an Advance, in Consequence of such Premium. And as to the choicest Parcels of *fine long combing Wool* in England and Ireland, these being improved, in Manufacture, (of fine Stuffs and Stockins) much more than fourfold, the Premium of 10 per Cent. will be just so much more advanced upon the original Price of the Material, as the Labour, in Manufacture, shall exceed the common Medium; which is reckoned, as 3 to 1. If, for Instance, a Pack of fine combing Wool is improved, 6 or 8 fold, in the Labour of manufacturing it; a Premium of 10 per Cent. on that Manufacture, will afford an Advance of 60 or 80 per Cent. upon the Material. And as to the Duty, of 3 l. a Pack; if, upon Trial, it is found too little, or too much, it may be advanced, or lowered, to its proper Pitch. The Judgment of the Thing will be, (and such is the Intention of this Scheme) to fix it so, that the foreign Manufacturer cannot give so much, nor the domestic Smuggler trade for less. And to do both these, is not, I think, impossible; and if it is not, it must be allowed that this Scheme is so far at least a good one.

19. In Behalf of this Scheme, it may be further urged, with the greatest Truth, that it is free from all those Clogs

Clogs and Incumbrances, so heterogeneous to *Commerce*, that have attended almost *every other Scheme*, which has, at any Time, been proposed in this Case. It throws off all that Plaistering and Bandage (*common to many other Schemes*), which tends only to waste the Muscles, emaciate the Parts, and weaken the whole Body Politic of the Nation. *This Scheme* (it is humbly conceived) has nothing attending it, which is in the least embarrassing to fair Traders, or which deviates from the ordinary Course of Traffic. It is designed to operate altogether, by the most trite and easy Methods, of *Premiums*, and *Duties*; and so far as any *Bias* is requisite to Trade, these are, of all others, the most politic and just. *This Scheme* removes indeed the *Prohibition* on *Wool* and *Yarn*; but it only puts those Commodities, the former especially, upon the same Foot, on which it stood for several Centuries together, and in the very best Times, comparatively, of the *English Woolen Trade*; I mean the Times of the renowned Queen *Elizabeth*: It only puts them into the same State, with the *Wool* and *Yarn*, and all native Commodities, in every Kingdom of the Universe besides (so far as History informs us) the *Dutch Spices*, and the *Silk* of *Piedmont* excepted; which two are not parallel Cases neither. The former of them (the *Dutch Spices*) has not indeed its Parallel; and as to the latter, (the *Silk* of *Piedmont*) it is only retained from Exportation, till it is organized; and that, in respect of the *Art*, and the *Instrument* or *Engine*, not of the *Material*. But though these two, which have been mentioned, are not, yet are there Instances, of other Countries, strongly resembling, in their respective Products, *Great Britain* and *Ireland*, in regard to the Article of *Wool*; which, it may be allowed, is there produced, though not of a *peculiar Kind*, yet in somewhat of a *particular Plenty*, beyond most other Nations; although almost *every other Nation* has its *Land of Goshen*. Thus, for Example, *Russia* has particular Plenty of *Hemp*; *China*, and *Persia*, and *Italy*, of *Silk*: And yet do they all suffer these *Materials* to be exported, *raw*, as well as *wrought*. And to convince us that this Permission is in them, no Effect of Barbarism and Want of good Policy; what would be the Consequence, if they acted differently,

(after

§ See
Ch. 122,
123.

(after the Example of *Great Britain*, in regard to *Wool**) may be perceived, from what Mr. *Jehua Gee* has wrote. Further, *Sweden*, above all other Countries, abounds in *Copper*; and it also manufactures a great deal of that *Metal*; yet, because there is *Copper* in other Parts of the World besides, therefore it is only charged, on Exportation from *Sweden*, with a *Duty* to the *Crown*, of 25 per Cent.

20. The *Effects* of this Scheme may be most certainly known at any time; the *Price of Wool* will be constantly in View; and all the rest, the *Woolen Exports*, may (upon the Foot of this Scheme) be learned infallibly, from the *Custom-House Accounts*; which *Accounts* the Legislature can call for, as often as they please. And indeed, if private Persons had the Privilege of searching there, as in some other *Public Offices*, it might have been of singular Use

* I know very well, what *will*, and what indeed only *can* be urged, after all, with any Shew of Truth or Reason, for continuing the *Prohibition* on Wool and Yarn, upon its present Foot; namely, the *Benefits of Manufacture*; which are undeniable.—But *Quere*, If this is not to draw a wrong Conclusion from right Premises? A Fallacy that is too easily swallowed! Let it therefore be considered, that tho' it is the only Argument to be made use of, that has the least Shadow of Truth in it, that yet, in regard to the Purpose for which it has been used, it is but the Shadow of an Argument; for which reason, as we have seen in the Course of these *Memoirs*, much greater Stress has been laid upon other Arguments for prohibiting the *Exportation of Wool*; I mean, upon supposed *Facts*, but entirely false. And surely, to prohibit the *Exportation of Wool*, because other Nations can't do at all without it; or because, by the Help of it, they can make twice the Quantity of, otherwise, useless Wool, into good vendible Wares. (*Both which have been alledged, with vast stress laid thereon, tho' neither of them are in any Degree true.*) And to encourage as much as may be, both the *Grower* and the *Manufacturer* of Wool, and the *Exportation of Woolen Manufacture*, to the common Benefit of the Nation, are very different Reasons, and admit of quite a different *Policy*. And it is worthy of Consideration, whether the Scheme here proposed, does not pursue all the Ends that are truly desirable in this Case, in the most equitable Manner, and in a Way likely to prove the most effectual.

Use to Writers in this Way ; and would probably have saved many *erroneous Arguments*, and much *false History* on this Subject particularly. This, at least, I can say, that under such a Liberty, *these Memoirs* had been more compleat.

21. I should now, in the very last place, take up the following Words of Sir *Josiah Child* upon a like Occasion. ‘ Tho’ nothing can be said for a *public Good*, but ‘ what will cross the particular *Ends*, as well as the *Opinions* of many private Persons ; yet my Love to *Truth* ‘ and *Justice* overcoming those Considerations, I have ‘ ventured to expose my Conceptions to public Censure ; ‘ with this Confidence, that after they have suffered the ‘ accustomed Persecution [or Neglect] naturally and ‘ constantly accompanying all *new Proposals*, for a ‘ while, they will at length, or something like them, ‘ come to be generally received, and honoured with the ‘ public Sanction, of a Law, or Laws ; concerning the ‘ Time of which I am not careful—only, for the sake of ‘ the *Public*, could wish it might be shortened.’ But, as a Check to the most distant Hopes of this kind, it has been remarked, on the Occasion of this Work (to the Undertaker) by several Gentlemen of Observation and Experience, that upon such a Subject, from the very Nature of it, nothing considerable is to be expected.—It is (say they) confessedly, and beyond all Dispute, a *very national Affair*.—But that is precisely the Reason, why no sufficient Number of Persons, of any Class, will give themselves much Trouble, or even Thought about it. *viz.* Because it is so far a National Concern, that no Persons, in respect thereof, can hope or fear, to fare better, or worse than Multitudes of their Neighbours besides. And (say they) Mankind move upon a narrower Bottom, they are actuated by more contracted Principles and Views, than that of *general, common Good*. This has been repeatedly observed ; and in making this Observation, Persons, with a secret Applause to themselves, think they have done their Part, and shewn a reasonable Share of *good Sense* and *public Spirit*. And it were to be wished that there was not so much Truth, as undoubtedly there is, in this Observation so frequently made.

———— *Pudet hæc, &c.*

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Nevertheless, this Delinquency, however notorious and Epidemical, does admit of a very easy and speedy Remedy—If for Instance, those only who so readily and justly make the Remark, and do seemingly lament the Truth of, and therefore despond under it—If *those only*, I say, would but do what is manifestly in their *own Power*, by removing this Indolence in their *own Persons*—If but so many Individuals as now indulge in Complaints on this Head, in regard to *others*, would resolve to act, as becomes *themselves* as less than *others* (and for *himself* every Person may undertake) In such Case, we should have immediately a *Body of Men* in the Nation, sufficiently respectable both for their *Numbers* and *Quality*, claiming *Attention* to, and ready to *deliberate upon it*.

And what gives some Glimmering of Hope in this Case, is, that Gentlemen, heretofore have had but too colourable a Plea for their Neglect and Indolence, from those Clouds of Darknesh and Uncertainty, with which this Subject stood surrounded; insomuch, that a Person was no sooner embarked in the Consideration thereof, but he found himself bewildered with various, inconsistent Assertions and Opinions, such as he could not reconcile, easily believe, or certainly contradict. *Whereas*, this whole Affair is, *now*, very much cleared up; and as there are not the same Impediments in the Way; so not the like Excuses to be made, as *before*—But those who are truly desirous of Information, in order to their acting properly in their several Stations, have *here*, a *Foundation*, of *Truth*, to build upon, and indisputable *Materials* to work withal. And therefore the Author being fully persuaded of the good *Inclinations* as well as *Abilities* of several, and well knowing the *Force of Example*, does flatter himself, that there will not be wanting, finally, an Attempt at least to graft somewhat upon this Stock of *Memoirs* and *Scheme* for Improvement; and that sooner or later, some Fruit may arise from his Labours here devoted to the *Service of his Country*.

T H E E N D.

PREFACE.

HAD it not been for a late Occurrence, I should have taken the Liberty to have address'd these Reflections, how much soever beneath the Dignity of the Subject of which it treats, and how unworthy soever they are on that account of his Acceptance to an honourable Gentleman, as a Testimony of the great Respect I bear towards him, as well knowing the great Pains which he took thoroughly to search into the Nature and Importance of the Things advanced in this Treatise; and as a grateful Acknowledgment of his having so zealously and prudently brought them on, and push'd them forward, after he had acquired a perfect Knowledge and Understanding of them; for which, I doubt not, but the whole Nation will one Day return him those Thanks publickly, which he so justly deserves, as some Part of the Country have already done privately.

This honourable Gentleman, has not only acknowledged himself to be convinc'd, by the strong Arguments brought by the *Draper*, of the absolute Necessity of immediately putting a stop to the Exportation of our *Wool*, but hath been so good, as after a cool and thorough Examination of the Scheme, offered by Mr. *Webber*, this Sessions, to
remedy

P R E F A C E.

remedy so great and fatal an Evil, to testify his Approbation of it, and to use his utmost Endeavours, to have had it put in Execution without delay, as being sensible what bad Consequences the giving away another Year's Wool will be attended with.

And certainly nothing is a greater Characteristic of a noble Mind, than the daring to search into the Bottom of Things, especially of those that are of such a Nature as to be of the utmost Concern and Importance to them; and not supinely and servily to give themselves up to be deluded and led away by the grossest Impositions that ever were advanced in any Nation, or to any People, who seem to be glad to catch at any Thing, that may look like any Plea, however weak, to alledge for their persevering in their Conduct, tho' they cannot possibly be so very ignorant, but they must know, that it must soon end in their own Ruin, as it hath already in that of their Country: So that it is but too evident that they are given up to a Judicial Blindness, the Consequence of which I need not repeat.

Of this Nature, are those Remarks pretended to have been made on Mr. *Webber's* Scheme, and the *Draper's* Pamphlet, which are handed about so industriously and spread through the Nation, to which I may add those in the *Gentleman's Magazine*. Tho' their Nature is such, as instead of pointing out the least Defect in either of them, they serve only to set forth their Beauties and Perfections in a clearer and stronger Light; for Truth like the Sun, tho' it may be obscured by a Cloud, will again break forth and appear brighter than ever. But here is the Misfortune, that a Point's having been controverted only, passes for Conviction enough
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P R E F A C E.

with too many, and without once looking into it, 'tis even Reason sufficient for them not to look into it at all ; not considering the sinister Designs of those who impose upon them in this Manner, nor that there is not any Thing in reallity that can possibly make more for an exceeding good Cause, and one that hath been supported by the strongest Arguments, than to have nothing but what is exceeding weak, wicked and scurrilous pleaded against it. Nor does it reflect a little Honour on a Man of the greatest Knowledge and Experience as well as Virtue and Integrity to be stiled a *Madman*, and an *addle-baded Projector*, and to have it asserted, that what he advances is nothing but *Dreams*, *Visions*, *Whimsies*, and *idle Imaginations*, when it will so evidently appear, that all that hath been objected against him, is nothing but Noise and Nonsense, without any the least Foundation. But as the *Draper* well observes, it is difficult to say, which is the greatest, the *Effronterie* of those who would attempt to impose upon the Nation by such Stuff, or the *Folly* of those well-meaning *Dupes* who repeat it after them.

If it be found, then, that all the Objections which could possibly be made against all that he or his Friends have advanc'd, have been fully answered in this Treatise ; and that it hath been made appear on the contrary, that those Advantages arising from his Scheme, vastly exceed all that hath been advanced by them. A Scheme which requirés the greatest *Wisdom* and *Sanity* to contrive ; so admirably well calculated, not only to prevent the most deplorable Evils that can befall a Nation, but to pour the greatest Blessings on them ; a Scheme, the Excellence and Perfection of which,
even

P R E F A C E.

even the Advocates for *France*, cannot bring the least plausible Objection against, and so are forc'd tacitly to acknowledge it. The Charge of Madness cannot, with the least Reason, be laid on him, but must fall on that Nation who refuse it, or even make the least delay of accepting of it. I shall only add, that if he hath so well succeeded in what he hath hitherto undertaken to make out; why should what he hath farther to offer, be look'd upon as less capable of Demonstration, seeing that what he hath already done, was at first thought to be altogether as impossible as what remains undone, tho' it now appears to be so very easy and familiar.

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A N S W E R
To the PRETENDED
R E M A R K S
O N

Mr. WEBBER's Scheme, &c.

IT may not be amiss, before I enter upon the Subject, to give the Reasons that induced me to answer the *Remarker* on Mr. *Webber's Scheme and the Draper's Pamphlet*; which were, first, the *Draper's* thinking it too much beneath him to take any Notice of so weak, so wicked, and so scurrilous an Author, whose very *Remarks* will convince every candid and impartial Reader of the Truth of what *the Consequences of Trade* asserted, and the Excellency of Mr. *Webber's Scheme*, were there no Answer written to it. Secondly, The great Miseries and Calamities my Country labours under, which every Day so surprizingly increase, that had the *Remarker* denied it, as he doth not once attempt to do, it would have been in vain; for as the *Draper* justly observes, Words, tho' they may serve to amuse, will neither feed the Hungry, cloath the Naked, nor pay Rents and Taxes, no more than defend us from powerful and designing Enemies. Thirdly, From my full Conviction

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of the utter impossibility of our being able to prevent our being reduced to become a Province to *France*, if the Exportation of our unmanufactured Wool is not immediately stoppt, which great and impending Danger the *Remarker* doth not undertake to disprove. As to the Weakness, Wickedness, and Scurrility of the Author, they abound in every Page of his Performance, and shall be taken Notice of as we go through it, tho' it does so plainly occur to any Person who is void of Prejudice and indued with common Sense. To give a most material Instance of it before I go any farther: His present Remarks then are on the *Sketch* of a Scheme which was delivered to Parliament eight Years since, as one which their *Wisdom* could make effectual, tho' he imposes them on the Publick as Remarks on a *Scheme* which Mr. *Webber* delivered to Parliament two or three Months since, more particularly explained; which Conduct, at the same time that it exposes the Weakness and Wickedness of the Author, is a tacit Acknowledgement of the Excellence of the Scheme, and makes it too obvious that he is one of those who proceed on the *Gazeteer's* Plan of, *the worse they write the better* *, and that the Patron of such Writings must be drove to great Extremities in being obliged to take up with such mean Shifts, like one who is on the point of being swallowed up catches at any thing he can lay hold on to support himself, even tho' it can serve only to sink him, not only the faster, but deeper too.

As to the Miseries and Calamities of the Country, the *Draper's* Pamphlet had not been published long before there came up the most melancholy Accounts from all Parts of this Kingdom, as well as *Ireland*, setting them forth and confirming what he advanced, tho' they vastly exceeded all that he had advanced on that Head, or that he himself could have imagined, great as he knew them to be. From *Devonshire* in particular it was asserted, that the poor Woollen Manufacturers there were so far reduced for want of Labour, as to feed on *Grains*, tho' no People of what Rank soever were wont to feed on better Victuals than they once did, and by their Labour could afford to do. The plentiful Condition of that County, which is for the most part naturally barren, by Improvements made since the first Establishment of the Woollen Manufactures there, is set forth in a Pamphlet which I published last Year †, which not only demonstrates, how much the Face of the whole three Kingdoms would be altered, and how much their Rents and Value would be advanced, were but the Exportation of our Wool prevented, but what fatal Consequences on the other hand must necessarily attend the suffering it to go off unmanufactured. The Miseries and Calamities of this once rich and flourishing County are so great, that I cannot forbear giving one Instance of it, which was related to me by a Gentleman of great Worth, Honour and Veracity, lately come to Town. It is as follows: That in a certain

* *Gazeteer of the 9th of March.*

† *Intituled Some Considerations on the Woollen Manufactures, &c.*

certain Parish there, bordering on *Somersetshire*, which was full of Manufactures (for the greatest Part of *Devonshire* was within these twenty Years but as one great Village employed in the Woollen Manufactures, which extended themselves and were carried on in Country Parishes as well as in Towns) the poor Wretches for want of Employ were so reduced, as to be forced to apply for Relief, in such Numbers, that those who took on them the Management of the Affairs of the Parish, shut them up in a Workhouse, and having kept them there till half of them died for want of proper Care and Necessaries, finding the Numbers which remained to be too chargeable, they turned them out again to beg their Bread. And nothing is more certain than that Thousands and Thousands of those poor Wretches have died in that County since the beginning of last Year, for want of Necessaries, and by Diseases contracted by eating unwholesome Food. And no less certain is it, that this Calamity spreads like a Deluge over the Country, the same Accounts having been since that time transmitted from *Somersetshire* also; and that it is come up so far as the Neighbourhood of *Marlborough* in *Wiltshire*, where they now eat Grains too, as I have Authority to produce. I know it hath been industriously insinuated, and it was lately urged to my self by an honourable Gentleman, that the Woollen Manufactures of the *West* were shifted to *Yorkshire*; but a good part of the Manufactures of the County of *Devon* in general, and all those of that Parish, the Miseries of which I have been relating in particular, were wont to be exported to those Nations which are now served, not with *Yorkshire*, but *French* Woollens, of which I have been an Eye-witness, as also that there are exceeding great Quantities of Woollen Goods made at *Lisle* in *French Flanders* not only for the Consumption of *France*, but of *Spain* too; whereas within these thirty Years the Inhabitants of that City themselves were wont to draw great Quantities from *England* in general, and *Devonshire* in particular, which they smuggled into *France*; who could not at that time cloath its own Inhabitants, much less drive us out of all our Woollen Trade *. Besides; that the Woollen Manufactures in general are not so flourishing in *Yorkshire*, I have Authority to produce; and in particular that the City of *York* hath lost them some Years, I am also credibly informed that at *Hallifax* they pay no less than 14 s. in the Pound for Taxes, which shews that there is neither a flourishing Trade in Woollens in that Town in particular, nor in the County in general, whatever some People may have asserted to serve a Turn; for where People are poor, there they will work cheap, and where Labour is to be had cheapest, there those who carry on Business always will apply for it; and this also the Petition from the City of *York* to Parliament, complaining not only

* In the Pamphlet already mentioned, is an Account of the Woollen Manufactures established at *Lisle*, as they stood in the Year 1736.

of the Decay of the Woollen Manufactures there, but all over that County, confirms, as doth the Petition of *Hallifax* the Decay of those of that Town. It hath also been asserted to me, that the Woollen Manufactures of *Norwich* are very flourishing, but the Petition sent from thence shews the contrary. I could pursue this Argument throughout the whole Kingdom, and shew that the Calamity is general †. But to come nearer home to the Manufactures of *Spittlefields* and of the Town in general. Let their Nature be what they will, they all depend on the Woollen Manufactures, and will rise or fall in proportion as those flourish or decay, they being the great Wheel of the whole Machine, and as it moves or stands still, so they also will move on or stand still. And here those who will give themselves the Trouble of inquiring into it will find Thousands and Thousands of those poor Wretches, who were wont to bring so much Wealth in among us, reduced to the utmost Extremity for want of Employment; so that scarce a Day passes but gives melancholy Accounts of their hanging and drowning themselves, and their unhappy Children with them, to free them from their Misery; of their stealing Bread and boiling Puppy Dogs to feed themselves with, and the next Accounts perhaps will tell us of their killing one Child to feed themselves and the rest of their unhappy Family; for many poor Wretches declare they have not tasted a bit of Flesh since *Christmas*, but have sustained themselves by Herbs picked in the Fields, boil'd and eat with Salt and Bread ‡. Instances never known before in peaceable Times, or at least when we have no Enemies to do with that could possibly have stood so long against us, but among our selves, and can scarce be paralleld any where but in the longest and straitest Sieges. Such and so great are the Miseries of those poor Wretches who are obliged to stay at home; great Numbers of others are gone into the Army and the Fleet, maintain'd by that Nation to the Support of which they were wont so greatly to contribute, and not a few are gone to cultivate and carry on those Manufactures abroad in which they can find no Employment at home, of which I can give Instances not only in Town but in the Country too; it having been too long a Practice for Persons to come over from *France* to delude and draw over poor brisk young Fellows, and after they have learnt from them all they know, to force them to take on in the *Irish* Troops which are in their Service, in order one Day to make them that Way,

† The Judges who went the last Circuits, could not, doubtless, but observe the Calamities of the Country.

‡ Since my writing the above, a Gentleman of Worth, Honour, and strict Veracity, hath sent me a Letter, to let me know that he hath received certain Accounts from *Westmoreland*, that the poor Manufacturers there are in a most deplorable Condition, starving and selling their Cloaths for Bread; and those who have gone to sell, eat Grains, and that there was the same Complaints in *Yorkshire* too.

Way, too, Instruments of their Country's Ruin; and besides our Natives, great Numbers of Foreign Tradesmen and Artisans, have left us for Want of that Business and Gain which induc'd them to come over, which accounts for those great Numbers of Houses which are void and uninhabited within the Bills of Mortality, said to amount to no less than 8000*, as appears from the Books of the Window-Lights, to the great Loss and Impoverishment of the Owners, as well as the lessening the Revenue and the Strength of the Nation. Many of these Houses are situated in the most Principal Parts of the City†, and so well accusom'd, that a Person could not but with Difficulty within these few Years have hired one of them, and if he could be so fortunate, he was, with Industry and Oeconomy, certain of making his Fortune. How unaccountable is it then for any one to urge that the Trade and Inhabitants of the City of *London* are shifted to *Westminster*, which is altogether as ridiculous as it would be to say, that the Trade and Inhabitants of *Spittlefields* are removed to *Grosvenor-Square*. Nor is it an Answer sufficient to say, that our Woollen Trade is gone to decay by Reason of the War with *Spain*; for every one knows that *Spain* was chiefly supplied with Woollens from *France* before the War, tho' they were not able within so few Years to cloath themselves but with our Woollens; but for some time past, besides their supplying most other Nations, they have in some Measure done it in respect to our selves too, *French* Woollens being continually smuggled in amongst us to my certain Knowledge, and are worn here by Persons not of superior Rank only, but by those of inferior too, tho' it is to be presumed that these latter do not know from what Quarter they come; this I assert from my own Knowledge. The Reasons why *France*, will always be able to underwork us, if they get our Wool, may be seen in the *Consequences of Trade*, which the *Remarker* has not attempted to disprove; and as for what has been alledged, that our Calamities are owing to the last hard Winters and Failure of our Harvests, were but our Manufactures flourishing, and had our Labourers money to buy them, we should have no Want of Necessaries, although we were obliged to import them from abroad; which is the Case of *France*, who actually carry off our Provisions, notwithstanding the *Embargo*; whilst our Poor, for want of that Labour which they rob us of, have in the midst of Plenty their Bread, without a Metaphor, taken out of their Mouths; so evident is it that we can refuse that Nation nothing, whom we oblige with our Wool. Nor are those Extravagancies and that Luxury which so much prevail among Persons of Superior Rank, sufficient to count-

* 8000 Houses at but six Persons in a House amount to 48,000 who pay no Taxes, which however must be raised whether on many or few.

† Fleet-street, Pater-Noster-Row, Ludgate-Hill, London-Bridge, and even Cheapside.

counterballance the Poverty and Distress of their Inferiours, so as to make us believe the Nation to be in so rich and flourishing a Condition as is wont to be represented. But fearing I have dwelt too long upon this Head I come now to shew from whence my Conviction proceeds that we are come so near to the Point of becoming a Province to *France*, that we can scarce possibly avoid it, did we set about taking Measures immediately to prevent it, which we are very far from doing, that I can see. And here I shall not repeat what the *Draper* hath so evidently made appear, and which the *Remarker* tacitly acknowledges; I shall only observe that our Trade hath been decaying for these 20 Years past: In the Beginning so insensibly that it was scarce felt, and when it was first perceiv'd, it past only for the Effects of the *South Sea Scheme*, and its having so much impoverish'd and brought such Ruin on People, as to render them incapable of carrying it on with that Vigour as they did before that execrable Project was put in Execution. All those Arts that have been put in Practice since, in order to forward and encourage that Decay, I shall not enter into the Detail of. It is enough for me to observe that it actually hath grown upon us like Arithmetical Progression, or like a great and rapid River which hath broke through its Banks; the Breach of which was not at first perceived, but at length becomes so great as to overflow all the Country round about us, so that it cannot be reduced into its ancient Channel but with vast Expence, if it be possible to succeed at all in attempting it. Thus tho' our Manufactures and our Commerce have been decaying so many Years, yet have they gone more to Ruin this last Year than they did in very many Years before; and as there is not the least Prospect of Redress, that I can see, what can hinder us from being overwhelm'd by it? That *France* is the only Nation on Earth that can inflave us, and that they long have had such Designs is what the *Draper* hath plainly proved; and as it remains unanswer'd by the *Remarker*, it must be taken for granted. I shall only observe, that this is not the only Nation on Earth that hath been made to overflow with Riches and Plenty by the Woollen Manufactures being carried on among them, and that the Loss of those Manufacturies hath reduced them to Beggary and Slavery*, and I defy the *Remarker* or his Fellow Helpers to deny what the *Draper* asserts, that without an Alteration of Measures, and a speedy one too, this Government also must soon be overturn'd and the Nation ruined irretrievably.

From this Introduction after having just taken Notice of a most notorious Falsehood which he would impose upon his Country Readers, as if the *Draper's* Pamphlet had not been known in *Town*, where,

† No notice hath been taken of it this Session, tho' the Fortifications of Dunkirk have been so long carrying on, no more than Care hath been taken to prevent the Exportation of Wool.

* In the Pamphlet beforementioned the Condition of Flanders and Antwerp is compar'd with England and London.

whereas on the contrary, almost the whole of it was inserted from Time to Time, by Extracts taken from it, not only by the *Daily Post*, but *Champion* and *Englishman's Evening-Post*, and that voluntarily and without any Application made to them for it) I come to the *Remarker*, where he first takes Notice of Mr. *Webber's* Scheme, which, as hath been already observed, is not that which the *Draper* recommended, as appears by his having asserted that it would not only ease *Parish Rates*, but prevent *Parish Law-Suits*, and suppress *Vagrants*, and *Thieves*, as well as employ them, which it lies upon the *Remarker* to prove that the most excellent *Scheme* deliver'd this Session is not admirably well calculated to effect: Whereas the *Sketch* of the *Scheme* deliver'd to Parliament formerly, and publish'd in the Pamphlet, on which, he says, the *Draper's* is founded, mentions not a Syllable of it; however it will be proper to go through his Remarks, not only to shew they have little or no Foundation, and consequently the Weakness and Wickedness of making them, but also to clear up all other Objections that have hitherto been alledged against either, particularly those in the *Gentleman's Magazine*, which instead of being a faithful and impartial Record, is nothing but an Heap of *Falseness* and *Partiality*, serving only to impose upon well meaning Persons in the *Country*, (for it is scarce read in *Town*) and to make them believe black is white, for he would not be suffered to take Minutes of his pretended Debates, was it not to serve a Turn. That this hath been his Design for many Years past, is not only too notorious to any one who will give themselves the Trouble to reflect on his Writings, but also appears in nothing so much as the monstrous Light in which he has represented Mr. *Webber's* Scheme and the Proceedings on it, all which I leave my Readers to judge of, and whether such a Writer deserves any more Encouragement from them for such a Heap of Nonsense. I now proceed to the first Article of the Remarks, by which he endeavours to prejudice both the landed and trading Interest against it, by asserting the most notorious Falseness, and that Mr. *Webber* intended to burthen them with no less than 680,000 *l.* Yearly for carrying it on; whereas it is evident Mr. *Webber* has declared he proposes to do it not only without any Charge, but on the contrary, makes the greatest Offers to this Nation that ever was made by Man to any Nation, for which I refer to the *Scheme* delivered this Session it self: But here I my self cannot help remarking how much on the contrary both these Interests would have been benefitted by it, if it had been accepted, and that even within a little Time, besides the easing of their Taxes and employing their poor starving fellow Creatures, which they are not capable of maintaining, which will appear from the great Advance there must necessarily immediately be on stopping our Wool, and the great Demands, as well as Profit, there would have been in manufacturing it, confirmed by Facts which have actually happen'd, which will also serve for an Answer to those who propose the G————— should buy up Wool, either

ther to *manufacture* or to *burn* it, on Pretence we shall have no Returns of Trade in three or four Years, and that it will lie on Hand and be an intolerable Burthen to the Country; all which I shall endeavour to make appear from the following short Propositions.

1. There is but little Wool on Hand at present, it having been greedily bought up by the *French*, as it is at so low a Price, and fearing they may possibly soon be depriv'd of the Opportunity of having any more.

2. On Wool's being effectually stop'd, Gentlemen and all Persons of Substance will keep their Wool in Expectation of an Advance, which they were generally wont to do, and that some Years when there was any Hopes of it.

3. What Wool necessitous People may have to sell will be greedily bought up, if not by the Manufacturers, yet by People of Substance, there being no surer way of getting Money than by laying it out in any Merchandize which will not damage in keeping some Years, provided that Merchandize is at a very low Price, and for which there must necessarily come a Demand, and which may be turned into Money again whenever the Owner pleases.

4. *France* and all other Foreigners will drop their Manufactures when they find they are like to have no more Wool to carry them on with, and our Manufactures will revive in proportion to the Decay of theirs. Not but that there will immediately come great Demands for our Manufactures by Reason of their low Prices at present and the Certainty of their advancing in Time, and it is but too evident that the Profit advances naturally in proportion to the Demand for any Thing.

The Truth of these Propositions is confirm'd by Facts, as by what happen'd on passing the Act 1. *William* and *Mary*, whereby *private* Persons were commissioned to stop the Exportation of Wool, which they in a good Measure effected, till for some Reasons, which I shall not mention, to avoid being thought to cast Reflections, the Prosecution of it was dropt. But notwithstanding, whilst it was pursued, it had such an Effect as to advance our Wool from 6 *l.* per Pack to 16 *l.* and our Manufactures to double the Price they bear at present. Another Instance I shall give of it, is by what happen'd in the Time of the Plague's being at *Marseilles*, too well known and observed to need any Thing farther to be said on that Head; and the last Instance is what happened no longer since than the last War between the Emperor, and *France* and her Allies, which was no sooner broke out, but in the West of *England*, at least, Wool advanced from 5 *l.* per Pack, to 8 *l.* or 9 *l.* and the Demands for those Manufactures, which are now quite stop'd there, was exceeding great and advanced proportionably, whereas before that War broke out, they were come to a very low Ebb. Now admit there are but one *Million* Packs of Wool grown among us, whereas it appears by my Calculations, which I shall defend and confirm the Truth of before I have done, that there are a *Million* and

and Half, as may be reasonably suppos'd, every Penny per lb. Advance amounts to one *Million* clear Gain to the Nation; and let the *Remarker* or his fellow Labourers shew Cause why, if Wool is stop'd effectually, it should not, and that in a very few Years too, advance as high as ever, and consequently what Foundation there is for any one to charge Mr. *Webber* or the *Draper* with wild *Notions* and *Whimsies* when they talk of *Millions*. So much for the landed Interest only; as for the Trading, I leave it to themselves to form a Judgment what Advantage it will be to them, from what their Trade and Profit is at present reduced to, compared with what they themselves know from their own Experience, or have heard it asserted by others to have been formerly.

But to return to the *Remarker*, as to what he alleges that the Charges of the Registers and Permits would amount to, and be no less than 300,000 *l.* yearly Charge on the *Woollen Manufacturers*, arising by Two-pence to be paid for registering every Parcel of Wool from one Pack to any Quantity, had Mr. *Webber* or any of his Friends asserted any Thing like it, they might well have pass'd for *Madmen*, and he would have done well, if before he had made so monstrous an Assertion he had consulted his fellow Helper, the *Magazine*, who herein so mightily differs from him, as that he will scarce allow any Quantity of Wool to be grown among us at all. But here I cannot help remarking, that if so small a Sum laid on every Parcel of Wool (for as he acknowledges it is not proposed to be laid on every Pack) would bring in to considerable a *Revenue*, what immense *Treasures* would not so very great a Duty (considering the Value of Money at that Time) as was laid on the Exportation of it by *Edward III.* bring in to the Publick; How much good would it do, if it was distributed among those who are starving for Want of being employ'd in manufacturing it; and how it is possible for any Nation to be guilty of so great an Oversight, as to part with so valuable a Commodity without any Manner of consideration. But I shall leave it to him and his Brother *Mag* to settle it between them, whether it be possible for any *Register's Office* on that Foot to be worth from 200 *l.* to 1200 *l.* and 600 *l.* per Ann. at a Medium, seeing they differ so very widely; and as to what he alleges, that *Parish Clerks* will not be capable of carrying on the Register, it must be observed, that in the Scheme recommended by the *Draper*, it is evidently proposed, that the *Patentees* shall find proper Persons for doing it. Not but that his Objections against *Parish Clerks* are groundless, provided they are otherwise qualified for it, seeing that it is proposed that they shall never stir out of Doors on Account of the *Registry*, unless in Case of Fraud having been practised; and so they will not only be capable of doing their Duty as *Parish Clerks* at the same Time by attending divine Service on Occasion, but of following their own Professions too, provided that it requires their *Attendance* at home, especially in small *Parishes*, where the Business will many Times be so small,

and require so little Trouble, that 40 s. yearly may be sufficient, and as for traveling Charges there will be none. But let this be as it will, the *Patentees* would undertake to find proper Persons without burthening the Publick and consequently the Charge of 380,000 l. yearly on the *Landed Interest* also is without any Manner of Foundation.

As to his naming the *Patentees* *, and to its remaining to their Successors, that is not only altogether reasonable, but absolutely necessary, in order to obviate those Clamours which the *Remarker* himself would raise against this Scheme. In his Examination of the second Article about *Obsequing* and *Exents*, with which he endeavours to frighten those who are not sensible that nothing like it was ever intended by Mr. *Webber*, who if he would have come into that Way of thinking might have had his Scheme comply'd with, and those Sums paid him for it, which the *Draper* asserts he from Time to Time refused, and which, as the *Remarker* doth not deny the Truth of, must be admitted. What he objects is, indeed, a good Reason why the *Ministry* should have nothing to do with the Direction of this Scheme, but none against it, on the Foot it is proposed to be carry'd it on, i. e. under the Direction of private Persons, who are always to remain *independent* and under no Manner of *Influence*, and consequently would be turn'd out as well for *Abuse* of their Trust, as *Neglect* of Duty, *unsupport'd* as they would be, tho' it would be scarce in their Power to do either. But such a *Tool* could have nothing in his View, by setting Things in this Light, unless to impose on weak Readers. Altogether as weak and wicked is it in him to suggest, that the Legislature would not have taken Care of the *Liberties* of the Subject, as in all other Respects, so in providing that all reasonable *Allowances* shall be made for any *Accidents* or *Circumstances* whatever, the very Words of the rough Draught of a Bill which was drawn up, the Heads of which only were ordered to be printed, and shews that nothing is more evident, than that there will be no Difficulty for any Person who hath parted with his Wool, or manufactur'd it, to get a *Discharge* from it, and that without the least Trouble or personal Application. But supposing that any *Patentee*, or the *Committee* who it is proposed shall preside over them should be so weak and wicked as to commence malicious Prosecutions for the Penalties, they are not only to be discharged for it, and rendered incapable of acting any more in that Capacity, but it will not even be possible for them to vex any honest Man, seeing the Growers of Wool, as well as the Manufacturers

* Mr. *Webber* has but few Friends that he is engaged to, the rest of the *Patentees* may be chose by their Counties or otherwise: for he hath no Objection to any Party, provided that they are Gentlemen of Fortune, and are ty'd up from ever being under Ministerial Influence.

turers, have Liberty to account for it as if sold or used in small Quantities, and that in the Gross and without any Oath impos'd on them for the Truth of it ; notwithstanding which, it is so well guarded against Knavish Practices, that I should be glad to see the *Remarker* or any of his Accomplices, to shew how a Cargo of it may be sent off. But supposing it possible that malicious prosecutions may notwithstanding be carried on against Persons who are innocent, let it be consider'd that it must be tryed by a *Jury*, who will never be prevail'd on to give up their Neighbours to such Oppressions, tho' at the same Time, as the Law in that Respect is so well regulated, it may well be presumed that no flagrant Offenders will escape unpunished ; and this serves for an Answer to the *Magazine* in regard to his Insinuations, as to penal Laws, and as if some *Members* wou'd not admit of them, tho' for the Preservation even of *Trade* it self, and consequently of our being any longer a *Nation* but Slaves to *France* ; but who those *Members* are, seeing none of them made such Declaration openly, who are so much in the Interest of *France*, remains a Secret ; and it cannot be suppos'd, for Reasons given by the *Draper*, any of them can be so indeed.

I come now to the next Article of the Scheme, which the *Remarker* takes any Notice of, and that is the 4th, in his Objections to which on p. 21 he states his Case as if poor Persons bought very small Quantities of *Wool* to card and to spin in order to sell it to *Clothiers*, which Mr. *Webber's* Scheme leaves room for, provided those Quantities are not too large, without any Application to the *Registers* ; and so his Objection, which he set forth, as if attended with those seemingly insuperable Difficulties and Distresses, ceases ; not withstanding which, I defy either himself or his Accomplices to shew how a Cargo of it may be drawn together or ship'd off, much less that a Practice should be made of it. But in the next Place, he says, those very poor Women carry it to the *Clothiers* for whom they work, which implies, that the *Wool* was not their own Property, but that of the *Clothiers*, as it is fittest it should be, and as is generally the Case throughout the Kingdom, and which if it is not, ought every where to prevail ; as 5, 10, or 20 Packs of *Wool* may be bought together on better Terms than 10*l.* 20*l.* or even 50*l.* ; in which Case also they would need no Application to the *Register*. Not but that if the Exportation of *Wool* was stop'd, it appears by what hath been before advanced on the 1st Article, such poor Persons, if they were careful and industrious, would in time be able to purchase as many Packs as they can Pounds now. But here again his *Weakness* and *Wickedness* appear, in that he pretends to pity poor Wretches for *Hardships* which never were propos'd to be laid on them, nor conceived but in his own Brains, I would have said Scul, and at the same time never proposes any thing to help them out of the wretched Condition, to which they are actually reduced.

His *Remarks* on the 5th Article require no other Answer than that the Scheme which the *Draper* recommends is remarkable, for that there is not so much as an *Oath* required to be taken, on any Occasion whatever, by any Person concerned in Wool, or the Manufacture or Transportation of it; the like of which is scarce to be parallel'd in any other; nor are they required to bring Persons to appear for them at the *Registers*, or so much as even to appear in Person themselves, and so his Objection intirely ceases.

By his *Remarks* on the 6th Article, he endeavours to prejudice *Gentlemen* in the *Commission of the Peace* against it, by insinuating as if it would bring an *Herculean Labour* on them; whereas all that is proposed for them to do is, at their *Quarter Sessions*, to approve of proper Security, to qualify ships for the Transportation of Wool, which Security once given, will be sufficient so long as the Parties concerned have no Objection against it; and to order Persons, who are likely to become chargeable, Home to the respective Parishes, which is no more than they do at present; but with this Difference, that they will have fewer *Poor* and consequently less *Business*, only if they please they may look into the Copies of the *Registers* proposed to be delivered them, to see that no Frauds are carried on and connived at.

As to what the *Remarker* says concerning *Waste*, and that it is impossible to find a *Remedy* on that Score, it is said, expressly, in the Scheme recommended by the *Draper*, that all Manufacturers shall be discharged from so much Wool as they may compute may have been consumed in manufacturing it into Cloths, &c. how base, and how much of a-piece with his former Remarks is such an Insinuation, as is that other, as if it could not be done but on the Foot of the *Excise*, and *Officers* who must be continually *visiting* People's Houses and *ransacking* them, whereas it is plainly express'd in the Scheme recommended by the *Draper*, that no *Register* is to *visit* any Person's House whatever on any Pretence, but after Oath having been made of Suspicion of *Fraud* having been committed, and even then it is proposed it shall be done in the *Day-time* only and at *seasonable Hours*; and how monstrous is it to put so gentle and easy a Regulation on the same Foot, as the *Excise Scheme* or *Bill to regulate Seamen*, as the Magazine does, in both which the *M—'s* Will only would have been Law; whereas what is here proposed is no more, and even not so much as what Persons do in searching for stolen Goods, which in Case any are found is to be decided by *Juries*; the strongest Objection that can be made against Excises, which would otherwise be as harmless as the Customs. So perfectly well agreed are those two notable Fellow-He pers, that I cannot forbear remarking that their Observations, it is too evident, flow from the same Spring. But wherein consists the *Impracticableness* of putting the Scheme in Execution, it lies still upon the *Magazine* or his *Objectors* to make out.

The next Objection of the *Remarker* is, the Want of a *proper Certainty* as to the *Buyers of Wool*, and this I shall shew to be as groundless

groundless as any offered yet, by illustrating it in the Example which he himself gives us, as follows. *Edward Jones, of Taunton*, buys Wool of a *Farmer of Wilton*, which *Farmer*, makes it in his Bargain to convey it to *Taunton*, for a Price agreed on, and accordingly he sends it thither by his own Carriage, or by that of some one well known to him; on Delivery of which Wool to *Jones at Taunton*, the said *Jones* gives or sends, proper Notice (of which Forms and Directions will be printed for every Part of the *Register* to make it easy to all concerned) to the *Register* of that Town that he hath received into his Custody, such a Quantity of Wool from the *Farmer of Wilton*; on Receipt of which Notice, the *Register* sends him a Certificate that it is registred to his Account, which Certificate, is immediately to be given to the *Farmer of Wilton*, or to the Person which he employed to be delivered to him, on producing whereof to the *Register of Wilton*, the *Farmer* shall immediately be discharged, and in Case *Jones* should afterwards be able to find Means to smuggle it, which I defy him to shew how it is possible for him to do, and if after he has done it, he should not be able to pay five Shillings for every Pound of it, it is proposed, that he shall suffer and be incapacitated of receiving any more into his Custody, and so he can do it but once after all; so perfectly ridiculous are all his Objections, and so excellently well calculated is it to answer the Ends proposed.

As to the *Irish* Woollen Manufactures, if *Mr. Webber* did propose in his former Scheme some Indulgence for *Ireland* in this Article, yet in this he does not, but leaves it to the Wisdom of Parliament; whether they shall be continued on the same Foot as they are at present, or whether any Alteration shall take Place; neither of which interferes with his *Register*. However, to oblige the *Remarker*, I will let him know *Mr. Webber's* Sentiments of the Matter, which he started with an ill Design, and in order to raise a Jealousy and a Contention between the *English* and *Irish* Woollen Manufacturers, who are both starving, that so the *French* may continue to run away with the Bone from both. *Mr. Webber* then thinks, that *Ireland* ought to be treated by *England* as a younger Sister, seeing its present Inhabitants are not only Fellow-subjects, but are in a good Measure descended from us too, and capable, should they revolt, of doing us more Mischief than any Nation on Earth; and he is ready to maintain, and even to demonstrate, that if *Ireland* manufactur'd all their Wool, and even exported their Manufactures (which howeyer, is more than they claim or expect to be indulg'd in,) it would be infinitely better for the *Gentlemen of England*, and the *Woollen Manufacturers too*, than that *France* should have any of it to manufacture. But it too evidently appears, that the *Remarker* and his Fellow-helpers are Tools to *France*, and would rather starve and ruin both Kingdoms, and that neither of them should reap any Benefit by what Nature hath so signally blest them with, and distinguished them by, than that
his

his *French* Patrons should not be able to bring their favourite Scheme to take Place, of enslaving and giving us up to our *Hereditary* Enemies. In the Causes which he gives, why our *Manufactures* flourished during the last Wars, he out-does all his doings in Stupidity; as if People did not wear Cloths, whether they are in the Army or not. Then as to *foreign* Troops, let him disprove what the *Draper* advances, that *Foreigners* are not able to cloath themselves without the Help of our *Wool*; and as to *Callicoes*, and the like, there were as many worn when our *Woollen Manufactures* were very flourishing, and perhaps more than at present.

All the *Remarker's* Objections against Mr *Webber's* Scheme having thus been answered and cleared up, and it having been shewn in particular, that it will be so far from bringing an annual Charge of six or seven hundred Thousand Pounds on the Nation, that on the contrary it will bring in immense Treasures, and so far from being so great a Burthen to the Landed and Trading Interest, that it will be attended with such great Advantages to it, I would have the *Remarker* give some satisfactory Reasons, why so good and so beneficial a Scheme should be rejected, or even the Execution of it delayed? Why the Nation should be burthened with Taxes, which they are not capable of paying, and those Millions be refused, which Mr. *Webber* proposed to raise this Year, the raising which, would have affected no *British* Subject? Why our Bread should be given away to our powerful and designing Enemies, and our *Inhabitants* suffered to starve? Why *Wool*, tho' it was not thought proper to stop it those many Years of Mr. *Webber's* Application by his Scheme, and just in his Manner was not stop'd by any other Method? Why the *Custom-house* Officers are not as yet forced to do their Duty and stop it in the best Manner they can, seeing they are capable of doing it in a great measure? And lastly, that as the *Remarker* agrees with the *Draper*, that Trade is of great Advantage to all Nations, why it hath been so very long and so very much neglected, and so very little Care taken to encourage and protect it in this? For it is not enough for *Gentlemen* to assert that our Trade never was more flourishing than at present, and to appeal for a Proof of it to the *Custom-house* Books, which neither those who refer, or are referr'd to them, would understand, or be capable of making a Judgment of, was it possible for them to come at the sight of, and have the Liberty of examining them: Such Assertions may serve to amuse, but cannot alter the Nature of Things, nor prevail against Matter of Fact and too useful Experience. As to the new Channel which he speaks of, found out for our *Woollens*, he should have said rather for our *Wool*; there being some *Woollen Manufacturers*, lately gone over to R—— to set forward that Business there too; and it is too much to be feared, that was it possible for us to subsist as a Nation, without preserving the *Woollen Manufactures*, no Nation in Europe would come into Alliance with us in short, without making

it a Part of their *Stipulation*, that they may have our *unmanufactured Wool*. *Sweden* it is certain prohibited last Year the Importation of our *Woollens*, doubtiefs by the Insinuations of her Ally, the *French*, who are so well qualified to instruct them what great Treasures they would bring them, and that they might soon be capable, not only of supplying themselves with those *Manufactures*, but the rest of the *Northern World*, as the *French* do the *Southern*; which *R——* is sensible of, and is concerting Measures how to supply themselves, at least, with them.

I must now call upon the *Remarker* to shew Cause, why we should not be able to work up so much Wool as *France* at present actually doth, why we should not be able to find People to buy it, and why we should not be able to get forty or fifty Millions yearly by it, seeing he hath not disproved what the *Draper* hath advanced on these Heads; and I shall be glad to see it demonstrated, what could possibly have raised *France* from the poor, weak and distress'd Condition to which they were reduced, by carrying on so long and so unsuccessful Wars, by the failure of the Fruits of the Earth, and by the Practices of the late *Regent* and Mr. *Law*, more destructive than either of them, to so rich and powerful a Condition in so few Years, notwithstanding their labouring under the great Disadvantages of beating us out of a *Trade*, in which we had been not only a *Century* or two establish'd, but which are founded on *Manufacturing* the peculiar Produce of our own Country, which they come at, contrary to the strictest Laws of our Land; and notwithstanding the vast Expences they were at in that Time, if those *Manufactures* had not brought them in not a few Millions yearly, seeing, as the *Draper* justly observes, they have made no Acquisitions of Land that could possibly do it; for as to his *Calculations* of the Weight of Wool grown on every Sheep throughout the Kingdom, that is perfectly ridiculous, and nothing can be more moderate than what it is computed at in the *Consequences of Trade* *.

As to what the *Magazine* asserts, of Mr. *Webber's* having imposed on the House, in relation to the Quantity of Sheep slaughtered weekly for the Town, that is a Reflection of such a Nature, as would not have been past over with Impunity at other Times; nor is it safe for any Persons but the Advocates of *France* to do it, even in these Times: However he must allow that the Account was satisfactory to them, seeing the Gentleman from whom Mr. *Webber* told them he had his Information, was at that very
time

* If the Quantity of Wool grown among us is not even more than I have computed it to be, it lies upon the *Remarker* to make out, how Two pence paid for every Parcel, from one Pack to any Number, would amount to, and be a yearly Charge of 300,000*l.* on the Woollen Manufacturers. But why he is guilty of such Inconsistencies is but too obvious.

time attending, and might, if any Doubts had remained, been called in, and questioned himself about it.

That there were 30,000 Sheep slaughtered weekly for the Town till within these few Years, is what that *Gentleman* † hath so much reason to be satisfy'd of by many Years diligent Search into it, that he ventured on the Truth of it to offer no less than 700 or 800 Guineas for the Fine of a Market, besides paying a greater Rent for it than ever; which, as he is a Man of good Sense, he never would have offered without a good Foundation for it. But this Affair is too well known in *London*, it having been so often asserted on the *Exchange*, as well as in *publick* and *private Houses*, without being objected to; and so certain a Truth is it, that none of all the *publick Papers* that are read in *Town*, tho' often provoked to do it, have ever in the least attempted to dispute it; nor would there ever have been any such Attempts made, were it not in order to impose upon the *Country*, who could not but take any thing for Fact, when asserted by so *faithful* and *impartial* an Author, as they have no Opportunities of informing themselves otherwise. But let him make a *Calculation*, and demonstrate that a less Quantity of Mutton would serve the Town; I do not say now that 8000 Houses are forsaken of their Inhabitants, and that so many of those Persons who remain, have not Money to buy Meat in so great Quantities, and too many of them, not even any at all; not that I would insist on his making those Calculations, with his Coadjutor the *Remarker*, from the *Bag-shot Heath Croppers* neither; this would be no more than I did before I published my *Calculations*, which I should have inserted here, but that I would gladly see some more of so *worthy* and *ingenious* a Gentleman's Performances, by which he would mightily oblige his *Readers* no doubt, as well as *myself*; and let him shew in particular, that a Pound of ‡ Mutton is too much to be allowed for every Inhabitant one with another to consume weekly, to me that Allowance seems not to be sufficient, but that *Deficiency* may be accounted for by those great Quantities that are slaughtered without coming into *Smithfield* at all, which makes still for my *Calculations*. But should those Accounts, which he gives the *Publick*, as taken from the *Toll Books*, have been actually taken from them, it argues nothing, but that there is some *Roguary* at the

Bottom

† *The Gentleman, with a Friend of his, who lived many Years in Smithfield, will both be ready at any Time, to give any Person the same Satisfaction, which they gave me, and may be heard of at the Publisher's of this Pamphlet. — I had likewise the Curiosity to consult an eminent Fell-monger, who did assure me, that the Fell-mongers for several Years, Communibus Annis, bought so many Skins, from Smithfield; which I presume they could not have done, unless there had been so many Sheep slaughtered weekly.*

‡ *Rare.*

Bottom of it, as too frequently happens in the Affairs of the *Publick*, which however I cannot suppose, and the less for that this *Author* hath industriously set all Mr. *Webber's* Scheme and the Proceedings on it, in a more odious Light than it could be imagined any Person could be so profligate as to do, which shews plainly, that he is so abandoned a Wretch as to be capable of doing any thing: For which I appeal to the said Scheme itself, and to the Letters which he hath so basely misrepresented, particularly those published on *Cruels*, which he ought to insert in his Collections, if upon no other Account, yet to satisfy his Friend *White*, if there is any such Person at *St. Ives*, where I have reason to think there are no such *Cruels* made nor exported, as he speaks of, which it is evident are those for curious Needle-work, or rather Tapestry, the manufacturing of which amounts to, not to say 40 l. per Pack, but some of the Richest of them, to Hundreds of Pounds per Pack, which Manufactures; were we but wise and not infatuated, must necessarily be immediately dropt abroad and be transported hither.

He ought also to have observed, that by my Calculations the Wool of *Great-Britain* and *Ireland* (the *Vell* and *Lamb's Wool* included, amounted to, at least, a Million and Half of Packs yearly, whereas I computed it only at a Million, it being designed to set the Value of Wool in such a Light, as to demonstrate its being worth our Regard, not to ascertain the exact Quantity grown; but what would he and the *Remarker* have said, had I calculated the Value from the most that it appear'd to me to be, and consequently made it amount to half as much more. But one cannot expect Justice done him by a Person who doth all he possibly can, on the contrary, to delude and deceive his Readers, and is so stupid or perverse as to say, that either the *Draper*, or his Friends, calculated from thence the Power of *Great-Britain* and *Ireland*, and the Benefits arising from the Scheme, seeing Mr. *Webber* hath expressly asserted that the Million yearly forever, which he proposes to bring from Foreigners, is not to arise by any Tax either on *Sheep* or *Wool*; and consequently let the Quantity of them be more or less it will not be affected by it, no more than that other Part of it so admirably well calculated, and so absolutely necessary for the Reformation and Well-being of the Nation. So that after all, these *French Advocates* can say, there has been nothing advanced but what remains solid and without vanishing into *Smoke*. But I now call upon them to answer the *Draper's* Assertion, that we should be infallibly undone were our Loss yearly but Ten Millions only, and our Enemies Gain in proportion to it. Thus I hope the *Magazine's* Objections and Innuendoes are fully answered.

I now return to the *Remarker*, where he charges the *Draper* with having, in the most impious Manner, called God to witness, to the greatest Falsities, in asserting that his Majesty had granted Mr. *Webber* a Charter nine Years ago, for an Universal Register, since in Fact, says he, his Majesty never granted such a Charter.

In Answer to which, the present Conjunction will not suffer me, to set forth the Steps that were taken this Session, to procure an Act for the Confirmation of it, which if I were permitted to do, I should expose the *Remarker*, and the *Falsity* of his Assertions in as strong a Manner as I have hitherto done in any Instance; all I can do, is to insert the following Petition, which was intended to have been presented to the House, and which the Hon. Gentleman would not have undertaken to do, could it have been refus'd on Account of there having been no such Charter granted, as in *Fact* it was not.

To the Hon. the Commons of Great-Britain, in Parliament assembled, the humble Petition of Samuel Webber, Serge-maker, sheweth,

“ **T**HAT your Petitioner, ten Years ago, was recommended,
 “ by above Six hundred Thousand Woollen Traders,
 “ to his Majesty, for the obtaining an Universal Registry in
 “ Charter for himself and Company, in order to prevent the Ex-
 “ portation of Unmanufactur'd Wool to Foreigners; that his
 “ Grace the Duke of Newcastle did, in his Great Goodness, pro-
 “ mise to deliver and recommend a Petition to his Majesty, in be-
 “ half of the said *Samuel Webber* and Company for such a Char-
 “ ter; that his Grace's Secretary, *Charles Delafay*, Esq; sent a
 “ Messenger with a Summons, requiring the said *Samuel Webber*
 “ and Company to attend at *Newcastle House*, which accordingly
 “ they did, and were then told that, according to their Petition, his
 “ Majesty had been graciously pleased to grant them the Charter
 “ requested; that the Fees due to his Grace, on Account of such
 “ Charter, were forty Guineas, but that, in Consideration of
 “ the great and publick Utility of the Charter, his Grace would
 “ be so good as to remit his Demand, for which Act of Genero-
 “ sity we waited on his Grace with our Humble Thanks, and
 “ were ordered by his Grace to wait on the Attorney-General,
 “ who had Instructions to report or form a Charter; that the Attor-
 “ ney-General, in order thereto, directed us to get an Affidavit
 “ drawn up and sworn to before a Master in Chancery, setting
 “ forth the Advantages that would arise to his Majesty and the
 “ Nation from such a Registry in Charter, and bring it to him,
 “ which accordingly we did; that the Attorney-General did far-
 “ ther order us, to carry him Copies of the Stocking-Frame-
 “ Knitters and Tobacco-Pipe-makers Charters (they being also
 “ Universal ones) for Precedents; that he told us, moreover,
 “ that he had returned it to Hampton-Court, but said that it
 “ would be expedient, for the more easy Execution of the Char-
 “ ter, to get his Majesty's Grant confirm'd by an Act of Parliament,
 “ advising us to apply to the Legislature for that Purpose; that,
 “ the

“ the next Session, we did petition the Parliament, who chose a
 “ Committee ; but that the Parliament drawing near a Dissolu-
 “ tion, Sir W—— Y—— acquainted the said Samuel Webber
 “ and Company, that it was his Majesty's Pleasure to visit his
 “ German Dominions, and the Desire of the Members to retire
 “ as soon as possible to their several Countries, and therefore that
 “ there was not Time to pass such an Act that Session, but that
 “ they might be assured of obtaining one upon the next Meeting
 “ of the Parliament.—This being a faithful Narrative of the Pro-
 “ ceedings of the said Samuel Webber and Company, in respect
 “ to their Charter foran Universal Registry, and an Act of Parlia-
 “ ment to confirm it, they cannot, without the highest Indignity
 “ to the Honour of the most Honourable Persons, question whe-
 “ ther the Charter was actually granted, or whether the Goodness
 “ of this Hon. House, will be pleased to make such his Majesty's
 “ gracious Favour effectual, by passing such an Act, as they had so
 “ much Reason given them to hope for.—And as a reasonable In-
 “ ducement to the passing such an Act, the Petitioner begs leave to
 “ repeat, what he has often asserted, that the Exportation of Wool
 “ cannot be effectually stopp'd any other Way than by an Univer-
 “ sal Registry in Charter, which Charter cannot be effectual with-
 “ out the Aid of Parliament ;

“ Wherefore your Petitioner humbly prays to be heard at
 “ the Bar of this Hon. House, and hopes for such En-
 “ couragement as to this House shall seem meet.

And your Petitioner shall ever pray, &c.

*As a Condition of this Petition's being accepted, the following
 Alterations were made by order of the Hon. Gentleman whose
 Place it was to receive it ; viz. instead of Sir W—— Y——, an
 Hon. Person ; and instead of might be assured, might probably
 obtain. Not but that the Petition as it now stands relates the
 Matter as it really happen'd.*

As to the Report, which he says, the Attorney-General made of
 it, I take it to be of the same Stamp with the rest of his Perform-
 ances ; for that would, if it was true, reflect no small Dishonour on
 those Gentlemen, who could impose on Mr. Webber in so flagrant
 a Manner, as not only promise him to do what they never in-
 tended, but to put him off with such notorious Lies, in an Affair
 of so serious and important a Nature, and thereby induce him to
 spend so much Time and Money in vain. But I cannot leave this
 Report without observing, that the Remarker would basely insin-
 uate, as if Mr. Webber's Charter was proposed to be of the
 same Nature, and would have so dangerous a Tendency to the
 Subversion of the Government, as the Combers, and Weavers un-

lawful *Clubs* and *Assemblies*; the Vileness of such Infinnations appears in that, on the contrary, it is so evidently, and admirably calculated, entirely to prevent those great Evils which were occasioned by them, which wanted so much to be redrest; and which no one ever pretended to do before, and that it would be effectual, for that End will appear by what follows. That if we consider it, the *Riots* and *Disturbances* which have arisen among the *Manufacturers* from time to time, are generally begun by *idle Fellows*, who have run away, and left their Families to their *Parishes* for a Maintenance, and having no one to take care of but themselves, do only just work enough to get Money wherewith to frequent *Ale-houses*, where they are continually contriving among themselves how to raise their *Wages*, that so they may have more Money to spend idly; which *Disturbances* and *Riots* as they are the *first Contrivers* of, so they are the *principal Actors* in carrying on, for the *Natives* and *Inhabitants* always pretend, that they are forc'd into those Measures, as in Reality the Generality of them are wont to be, for should those latter begin, or even appear too forward in them, they would after those *Disturbances* ceased, have a *Mark* set on them for those *Outrages*, and be always remembered for it; so that it would be difficult for them to find *Employers*: Whereas Strangers immediately go off into some other Places, where they have not been guilty of such Crimes, and where their Practices are not known. But in the Beginning of such *Disturbances*, and before they are got to a Head, how easy will it be for Complaints of it to be made to any *Justice of the Peace*, and altogether as easy for them, to make an Order for such *Arbulent* Persons not only to *depart* immediately, but to *oblige* them to it, which will as soon put a Stop to all their *Proceedings*.

But to return to the *Remarker*, and it fairly lies on him, as has been already observed, to shew Cause why so excellent a *Scheme* should have been so long deferr'd to the *inconceivable*, and I may add, almost *irreparable* Damage of the Nation, seeing what he asserts to be so horrid a *Falsity*, proves to be so great a *Truth*. Nay, let him give Reasons why Wool hath not been stoppt by some *Means* or other, if not *intirely*, yet in a *good Measure*; which that it might be done, his Friend the Magazine gives as the *Opinion* of some *Members*, by the *Officers* of the *Customs*, and that without any *new Law*; for that they have not done it, appears from the small Quantities which hath been seized by all Sorts of *Officers* these seven Years past, inserted in this *Treatise* as it was taken from the *Custom-house Books*, for which I have undoubted Authority *. And why the *Connivance* of the *Officers* of *Excise*, may not be *bought at as cheap a Rate*, as those of the *Customs*, and why the one are not as liable to be turned out for doing their Duty as the other, seeing there is but one *suprem: Director*, I should be glad to be informed

* See An Account of Wool seized, Page 21.

informed by either of these *Writers*. Had I been permitted to have gone into Particulars, I could, on the Occasion taken Notice of by those Writers, have discovered some Instances in both Branches of the Revenue, and such as would have shewn too plainly, that the Case is all one, and but too general to be continued, if due Regard was paid to the *Preservation* of our Constitution. But why *Wool* will be effectually stop'd by its being put on the same Foot, and under the same Inspection, as Coffee and Teas, Goods never smuggled more than at present, let the *Advocates* for *Excise* make appear.

The *Remarker* makes a great Noise about the *Draper's* having said, that *France* could not have any of our unmanufactur'd *Wool* in King *William* and Queen *Anne's* Time ; but every *Reader* must needs understand what is meant by that Expression, any comparatively speaking, not openly and avowedly, any so as to quite ruin our *Manufactures*, and to starve the poor *Labourers* ; but so as tho' there were with *Difficulty*, and the utmost *Discouragement* of the *Government*, Parcels carried thither, yet it was not so much, but that our *Manufactures* flourish'd all that time, and brought in immense *Treasures* yearly, which I defy him to deny ; as also whether after so long a *Peace* with all our Neighbours, we are not at present reduced to the utmost *Distress* and *Misery*, and that chiefly by the Exportation of our unmanufactured *Wool*, which hath increased so much upon us from Time to Time, as at present to have but little of it manufactured here.

But why he should assert so palpable a *Lye*, that the *Draper* pointed out to the People, *That the Day of the illustrious House of Hanover's succeeding to the Throne of these Kingdoms, was the Day from whence this Calamity, which he acknowledges to be One of the greatest that can befall this Nation, ought to bear its Date*, seeing the *Draper* breathes nothing but a sincere Attachment to his Majesty and his Royal Family, throughout the whole Pamphlet, I am at a Loss to determine ; much less why he should put that Evil, which he so unjustly and without any Manner of Foundation, says is pointed out, on the same Certainty, as that the Person so long distinguished

* *An Account of Wool seized by Officers during the seven Years last past.*

	Pounds. wt.	Fleeces.
From Christmas, 1733, to 1734	25	
to 1735	394	10
to 1736	20	240
to 1737	2321	
to 1738	4137	
to 1739	1680	
to 1740	3602	
	12179	250

singulised for his faithful Services, both the Government of the Parliament.

As to what he says, that Mr. *Webber's* Publick Spirit ought to have induced him to have given the *Commissioners of the Customs* any Information; he says, in Answer to that, there is but little Encouragement for him to do it, seeing the Case of his Friend, *Josias Thompson*, is so well known to him, who on his having seized a Cargoe of *Wool* which was smuggling to *France*, and on his insisting upon his Right to it, was turned out of his Place, of being an *Officer of the Customs*; and on his coming to Town to represent his Case; and on his warmly soliciting it, was run thorough the *Body*, and after he was recovered of it, was obliged to accept of twenty *Guineas* only, to carry him home, tho' never restored to his Place again.

The *Remarker*, next forces me, contrary to my Inclination, to examine into the Reasons there are to think, that it is stipulated, that our *Wool* shall go to *France*.

The first of which, is the Letter * which Mr. *Webber* received from *France* some Years since, and which he immediately carried to the *Secretary of State's Office*, as thinking it to be a Letter of a *Treasonable Nature*, and not safe for him to conceal, compared with the Answer that was given him at the Office, which to him was such a strong *Presumption* of the Truth of the Matter, that he immediately desisted from making any more Application to those Gentlemen, as he had long done before.

Secondly, the small Quantities of *Wool* that hath been seized for these many Years past, tho' *Wool* is of great Bulk, and cannot be put into the Pocket or under the Arm, and run away with concealed.

Thirdly, Mr. *Webber's* having been denied access to his Majesty after having been promised it, in the *London Gazette* as the *Draper* asserts.

Fourthly, by the Sloops which were stationed by the Government, to prevent the Exportation of our *Wool* having been convicted of exporting it themselves, and when their Captains were called to Account for it, as being too flagrant and notorious; by that Affair's having been *past over* in so slight a Manner.

Fifthly, by Sir *R*— asserting in the most publick Manner, that there was but little *Wool* sent out of *England*, but from *London* only; by which he not only charges so worthy and honourable a Body of Men with being accessory to so heinous a Crime, but gives us to understand, that he is not ignorant from what Places *Wool* is sent abroad, in what Quantities, and to whom it is sent; so plainly to me doth it appear, that what this *Journeyman Wool-comber* asserted, is not without Foundation: And I have heard it publicly asserted, and that from a Gentleman of Distinction too, and one who declared at the same time, that he did not know
Webber,

* This Letter is inserted at the End of this Pamphlet.

Webber, nor ever read any of his Writings, that there was other *Authority* than his, for the *Stipulation* of the Exportation of Wool: But whether there is any *Consideration* given for the Liberty of Exporting it to *private Persons*, as the *Publick* were formerly wont to enjoy, and which was at that *Time* the chief Support of the State, even in *Times of War*, I am not a Judge of, tho' one would imagine, that so *immense a Treasure* as that would raise, should not be given away gratis; especially by those who *understand* the Value of Money so well, and how to *apply* it so properly themselves. But this I will undertake to demonstrate, that no valuable *Consideration* on Earth, can be given for it, especially as we must necessarily with it give up *Ourselves* and *Families*, and every thing else that is *valuable* to us, to become *Slaves* to a Nation, who on account of the *brave Actions* of our *Ancestors*, and the *natural Aversion* they have conceived against us for them, will doubtless, treat us with the most *insulting* and *severe* Usage, to say no worse.

Whether the Persons, whom he mentions to be so very *diligent* and *eager* into Searches of this Nature, had any Application made to them, for attacking *the one aim'd at* on this Head, as he would insinuate, is what I leave to themselves. But it is to be hoped, that no *Persons* will, with open Eyes, give themselves *fordidly* or *tamely* up to *Arbitrary Power*, to *Banishment*, or to a *Persecution*, worse than either; seeing that all Parties have *danc'd* so long, that those who have *pip'd*, as well as those who have *danc'd* after 'em, are both on the brink of *Ruin*, and must, if they fall, *perish together*; and that as an Earnest of their *Intention*, to put an effectual Stop to the Exportation of Wool, at the next meeting of Parliament, the Officers will be obliged to put the *Laws* in being, in Execution forthwith, which would not fail, as has been made appear, of making an *Alteration* in the Face of our Affairs; and of *employing* and *finding* Food for our starving Manufacturers *immediately*; for it is to be hoped, that tho' so manifest a *Breach* of Treaties * in an Affair of so great *Importance* has been overlooked, as if in reality there had been nothing done toward's such a *Violation*; or that it was not of Moment enough to take Notice of it; yet, that we are not as yet so much reduced, as not to *dare* to put a stop to the Exportation of our Wool. Tho' I am credibly informed, that a noted *Owler* of it was so audacious, as to declare *publickly*, within these few Days, that he would send Wool abroad, in *Defiance* of the *Officers*, or those who employed them, and that if they pretended to stop it, it would end in their *Ruin*.

Having thus shewn that the *Remarker* hath not made the least Objection to Mr. *Webber's* Scheme, and having cleared it up from the *Misrepresentations* and false *Insinuations* of the *Magazine*,

* *Repairing the Harbour and Fortifications of Dunkirk.*

mine, and demonstrated, that not one single Fact †, which the *Draper* advanced hath been approved; and also, that what he did advance, was not done out of *general Prejudice*, but in as *tender* a manner as the Nature of the Thing would admit of, seeing that if these Matters were *light* and *buried in Silence*, the very Stones, less *hard hearted* than some Persons, would not fail to cry out and declare it, tho' I am sensible that those *Persons* were once as much distinguished for having some *Dawels* for their *Country*, as well as for their zealously *prosecuting* others, for not reducing *France* to a Condition low enough, as they now are for their *long and faithful Services*; I say all these Things having been considered, and it appearing that there is not the least room for the *Remarker* to stile it a *circumstantial declamatory Libel* against his *Majesty*, his *Servants*, and the *Parliament*, and aimed at one *Person* particularly, much less that it was intended to raise an *open Rebellion*, as the *Remarker* so basely and maliciously asserts. I shall conclude with this Observation, that it was with the Money that chiefly arose from the great *Duty* which *Edward III.* laid on the Exportation of our *Wool*, that he and his valiant Son, were enabled to make such *Conquests* in *France*, and that *France* never can *enforce* us by any other Means, than by our *consenting* to give them the Manufacturing of it, and by those immense *Sums* arising by those *Manufactures*, whether apply'd to bribe us, *namely* to give up our selves by inglorious *Peace*, or whether made use of to reduce us by open *War*.

An exact Copy of the Letter received by Mr. WEBBER.

10th of March, 1734.

Bretiren

HEARING your Petitions and Likelihood of obtaining a Charter and Regiltry to Stop Exporting Wool to *France* and the desire I had to End my Days in *England*, though told by the Count who imployed me to let forward the Woollen Manufacturies in *France* that an Agreement was stipulated by a great *M—tr* of *England* we should with all Safety have what Wool could be spared from *Great Britain* and *Ireland* and be Sharers in the Woollen Manufacturies. I made my Business to *England* this *Fab.* to hear and believe for my self, and find that Noble *Mans* words truth, it cant be otherwise, when those who are to secure

† Mr. Webber, to my certain Knowledge, not only sent a Letter to Sir R—W—, giving him to know, that he was the Author of the Narrative in the *Draper's Pamphlet*, and that he was ready to appear and answer for it, and told Sir W—Y—, the same in my Presence, but declared it also at the Bar of the House, as he assures me.

Handwritten signature



